



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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1 February 1991

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War Impact on Southern African Economies Noted

AB3101142691 Paris AFP in English 1404 GMT
31 Jan 91

[By Lawrence Bartlett]

[Text] Harare, Jan 31 (AFP)—Among the first casualties of the Gulf war are the fragile economies of several southern African countries, crippled by soaring fuel bills, analysts say.

The crisis could not have come at a worse time for the region, where a number of countries have embarked on economic reform programmes, the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) points out in a special report. The authoritative Harare-based organisation says in its report, issued shortly before war broke out, that the economic effects of the war also threaten future political instability in countries edging towards multi-party politics.

Several states in the region have already been hit by huge fuel price rises—with Zimbabwe on Thursday [31 January] slapping a further 53 percent on petrol prices, taking the total increase since September to 120 percent. Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) Chairman John Deary said the increase—to 94 U.S. cents a litre—would have a "severe" impact, and could prejudice Zimbabwe's efforts to avoid a serious recession.

Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero, heading moves towards liberalizing the country's tightly-controlled economy, said in September it would be irreparably damaged if the crisis continued for a further three months.

Mozambique and Zambia have more than doubled the price of petrol since the crisis began with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2. Both countries have seen long petrol queues as they experienced supply difficulties, with Zambia particularly hard hit as it bought nearly all its crude oil at a concessional rate from Kuwait before the invasion. Now it must buy where it can at the market rate, and the consumer price of premium fuel rose 355 percent in the first three months of the crisis.

In Mozambique, where a brutal 15-year civil war has restricted land travel to a minimum and air travel is often the only means of getting from place to place, domestic fares were increased by 24 percent in November.

Fuel costs for emergency airlifts to the more than eight million people in the country affected by war-induced hunger have also jumped, putting more pressure on an international community already suffering from "donor fatigue", SARDC said.

Attempts to reduce inflation through economic recovery programmes in a number of countries have also been badly hit by the Gulf crisis, with both Mozambique and Tanzania seeing inflation climbing again after falling steadily.

Mozambique and Zambia are both committed to moving away from one-party systems and holding multi-party elections this year—a process which SARDC says could be affected by the Gulf war, with increased domestic prices possibly having a considerable impact on the way the electorate votes. It says that of the countries in the region, Botswana, with more than two years import cover in foreign exchange, is in the strongest position to ride out the storm.

Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia and Swaziland, all heavily dependent on imports from South Africa, are vulnerable to a spiral of escalating production costs beyond their control. The only oil producer in the region, Angola, will benefit from higher oil prices, but its heavily import-dependent economy will also suffer from production cost hikes, SARDC says.

Tourism in the region—which Zimbabwe in particular has been counting on for increased foreign exchange earnings—is also expected to be hit by higher air fares and a stay-at-home mentality in Europe and America, travel industry sources say.

SADCC Meant as Economic Vehicle for Region

MB3102203091 Gaborone Domestic Service
in English 1910 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The vice president, Mr. Peter Mmusi, who is also the chairman of the SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] Council of Ministers, says the formation of SADCC was never based on the existence of apartheid in South Africa, but rather intended to forge long term economic viability within member states.

Mr. Mmusi clarified this today during the opening of the 1991 SADCC Annual Consultative Conference in Windhoek, Namibia. He said the imperative for its recognition was that although the countries of the region were politically independent, they remained overwhelmingly economically dependent, particularly on South Africa. Mr. Mmusi said it was not true that SADCC will be irrelevant after South Africa has become politically accepted, and that it will become a dominant regional power. He mentioned that South Africa had become specifically mentioned in the SADCC objectives because it dominated the region economically, imposed itself on newly independent states, and practiced a policy of racist oppression.

He explained that half of SADCC's program of action focuses on the rehabilitation of existing transportation systems, most of them established long before independence. These include the transport corridors of Beira, Dar es Salaam, Lobito, Maputo, and Nacala, which remain the shortest and most economic routes to the sea.

Mr. Mmusi also said SADCC expects South Africa to join it on the basis of its principles of mutual benefit, interdependence, and equity, as opposed to dependence and domination.

Commenting on the theme of the 1991 conference, the vice president said the shortage of well trained manpower and low productivity remained primary constraints to both full development, and utility of the region's infrastructure and its productive capacity. He said SADCC itself must create a capacity to initiate, design and implement the programs necessary to address the problems of human resources development in the region.

OMVG Summits Ends; New Measures Adopted

*AB0102090091 Conakry Domestic Service
in French 0645 GMT 31 Jan 91*

[Text] The summit of the Gambia River Development Organization, OMVG, yesterday ended at the Palace of Nations. Earlier, in his welcoming speech, General Lansana Conte, the president of the Republic, stressed the need for all states in the subregion to cooperate. Moreover, he called on the states to follow up the recommendations for a revival of projects.

Our countryman, Nassirou Diallo, the former secretary general of the organization, has been appointed executive secretary of the organization. The decision was made public yesterday evening at the end of the eighth session of the OMVG Summit which also adopted a restructuring plan contained in the final communique. It was read by Dr. Ousmane Sy Sylla, the outgoing chairman of the Council of Ministers. OMVG adopted new measures in Conakry and major decisions were made, did it not Ahmadou Diallo?

[Diallo] The OMVG Summit has now ended. The eighth session of the OMVG Summit, which started under the banner of renewal and restructuring, met all its promises. The first resolution adopted at the end of the summit was on merging the positions of secretary general and high commissioner into the single post of executive secretary. This major post will be held by our countryman Mamadou Nassirou Diallo, the former OMVG secretary general.

The plan relating to cuts in the operating budget, which was proposed by the Council of Ministers, was also adopted. It now stands at only 80 million CFA francs from 150 million CFA francs, a 50 percent cut due to financial difficulties. The staff of the organization has not been spared by the recovery measures of the organization. It has been reduced from 30 to 15.

In this regard, President Abdou Diouf, the new chairman of the summit, stressed the need for more rigor, competence, and methodology which should be the characteristics of the new OMVG staff.

[Begin Diouf recording] Restructuring is a steady process which calls for a perpetual questioning aimed at achieving quality service at minimum cost. We must give particular attention to selecting the people in whose hands the daily implementation of our organization will be. On the basis of the experience acquired by our organization, the new staff of the Executive Secretariat must be more dynamic, rigorous, methodical, consistent, and able in carrying out its duties. [end recording]

The adoption of a highly realistic minimal program which provides for the design of a master energy plan for all member countries and the construction of a bridge over the Gambia River was described by President Diouf as the first achievement of the eighth session.

[Begin Diouf Recording] The adoption of a minimal program of priority activities, which our organization has decided to carry out, followed broad-based consultations among our subregion with our partners from whom we expect financial and technical assistance. I think that the adoption of this minimal program of priority activities can be regarded as the first achievement of this new approach. Our program focuses on three basic projects which must be recalled: the first component is the construction of a bridge over the Gambia River which can be of practical use at any time while allowing for shipping activities. This bridge, preliminary work on which we want to see started by our next conference in two years, will undoubtedly be a privileged tool of economic integration for our subregion.

The second component of this program concerns the standardized study of the autonomous operation of the Kekreti Dam. This study must be the first stage of a more exhaustive study for the optimization of the integrated development of the Gambia River. It must enable us to plan for the impact of each work to be built over the river.

The third component of our program is the design of a master energy plan for member states. This plan will be designed after an exhaustive study of the energy market in the subregion. [end recording]

This is OMVG revisited and overhauled. It is the lesson we can draw from the eighth summit in Conakry which has been described as historic by Lansana Conte, the Guinean head of state, because of the deep changes made in the organization. The next summit will be held in Dakar in January 1993.

Cameroon

*TEPCAM To Seek Oil on Continental Shelf

91AF0407A Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE
in English 12 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] After a four-year lull in petroleum exploration, two oil companies, Elf [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France] and TEPCAM [a subsidiary of Total-CFP] are again in search of "black gold" along our continental shelf. This new-found interest in the country comes just five months after a government decision to encourage petroleum exploration through more lucrative conditions.

Two weeks ago, the chairman of Elf Aquitaine visited the country to finalise the arrangements. The General Manager of the National Hydrocarbons Company, SNH, Mr. Jean Assoumou yesterday in Douala launched the exploration operations. At a time when tension in the Persian Gulf has sent oil prices skyhigh, increased oil revenues will do so much good to us during this crisis era.

*Elf-Aquitaine To Prospect for Petroleum

91AF0407B Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE
in English 5 Oct 90 p 4

[Excerpt] Mr. Loik Le Floch Prigent, Chairman boss of the French Oil Company, Elf [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France]-Aquitaine, has reaffirmed his company's ardent determination to relaunch petroleum exploration in the country.

After being received in audience by the Head of State, President Paul Biya, Mr. Loik le Floch Prigent in a press briefing, revealed that his company will soon relaunch the search for petroleum products throughout the national territory.

Questioned to know whether the future of petroleum in Cameroon is promising, Mr. Loik le Floch Prigent said conclusive judgment can only be passed when seismic analysis started yesterday October 4 are completed.

The president of Elf-Aquitaine also held a working session with the General Manager of the National Hydrocarbons Corporation (SNH) during his stay in Cameroon. He further added that his trip to Cameroon was to show the determination of his company in making the petroleum programme of the country a success. [passage omitted]

Gabon

Opposition Leader Urges Dissolution of Assembly

AB2701135391 Libreville Africa No. 1
in French 1830 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Speaking at a news conference in Libreville, Paul Mba-Abessele, leader of the opposition party Democratic Rally of Lumberjacks, has said that juridically,

there has been a vacuum in the country since last year's national conference and he calls on the authorities to fill the vacuum. He also believed that the situation in Gabon has come to a halt, especially in the government and in the National Assembly. It is recalled that members of his party are assemblymen. Mr. Abessele proposed the dissolution of the parliament and the appointment of a new government, as well as fresh legislative elections under the supervision of foreign observers. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Abessele recording] We would like the National Assembly to be dissolved as soon as possible. Once the dissolution is effected, a new government should be appointed. It should be a government of change and we suggest that it be called an interim government. The mission of this government should be to effectively meet the aspirations of the people. It should work only for some time. Meanwhile, foreign experts in the organization of elections should be brought in to work peacefully in our country without any direct interference on our part. Once a census and redefinition of electoral constituencies—since elections should be held in an accountable context—are completed, these experts will hand their report to the president of the Republic, who will thus fix dates for fresh legislative elections. [end recording]

Cabinet Notes 'Systematic Attacks' by Journalists

AB3102215591 Paris AFP in French 2238 GMT
30 Jan 91

[Text] Libreville, 30 Jan (AFP)—The Gabonese Cabinet, presided over Wednesday by the state of state, Omar Bongo, said it was "moved by the defamatory allegations and systematic attacks on the government and especially the president by many journalists from the national media," an official communique issued in Libreville at the end of the meeting said. The cabinet, the communique indicated, decided to "assume its responsibilities in the face of this drift which is seriously threatening our democracy, just as it will take its responsibilities concerning the calls, even disguised, to revolt, to violence, and to hatred among Gabonese citizens, made by certain newspapers." The cabinet also said it was "aware of the need to organize and discipline democracy in Gabon," concluded the communique.

Many periodicals, independent or opposition party organs, have come into being over the past months in Gabon since the introduction of multipartyism, whereas previously, the national daily, L'UNION, was the only print press organ in the country, it is recalled.

In an editorial today devoted to this profusion of newspapers, L'UNION said: "These new publications are currently having a field day and Gabon now has about 15 newspapers that are waging a fierce war on us without sparing one another." The newspaper however wondered how many of these papers would survive six months, thinking that there would without doubt not be more than two or three, including L'UNION.

Libreville Civil Aviation Staff Begin Strike

AB2901143/91 Paris AFP in French 1057 GMT
29 Jan 91

[Text] Libreville, 29 Jan (AFP)—Staff of the Agency for Air Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA) at Libreville Airport this morning began an indefinite strike, observers noted. The strike is aimed at backing claims for better pay and improved welfare conditions, the striking workers told the press. This morning, Libreville Airport was paralyzed by the strike which began at 0630 soon after the departure of a Johannesburg-bound, UTA flight. Several flights, including an Air Gabon flight to Port-Gentil, were cancelled. Royal-Air Morocco has, on its part, cancelled its Gabon stopover on its Casablanca-Malabo (Equatorial Guinea) flight, via Abidjan and Libreville.

Bongo Meets Equatorial Guinea Delegation

AB2601111791 Malabo Domestic Service
in Spanish 0600 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] A government delegation of our country yesterday made an official visit of five and a half hours to Libreville, the Gabonese capital. The delegation, which was led by Santiago Eneme Ovono, minister delegate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, included (Vicente Ndong Aabalo), Equatorial Guinea's ambassador to Gabon, and Captain Manuel Nguema Mba, head of the military office of the president of the Republic. Mr. Ovono was received at the Renovation Palace by Gabonese leader Omar Bongo to whom he delivered a personal message from his Equatorial Guinean brother and counterpart, President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo. In an interview with the Gabonese press, the minister stated it related to the relations of friendship and cooperation fortunately existing between our two countries. Apart from the members of our country's delegation, the meeting was also attended by Lucie Mba, the secretary of state delegate to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and (Jean-Pierre Lepandou), head of the civilian office of the Gabonese president.

Meanwhile, Minister Ovono took the opportunity of his visit to meet with (Al Amrou Moustapha), the charge d'affaires of the Moroccan Embassy in Libreville, with whom he discussed the present situation in the Persian Gulf as well as the present state of the privileged relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the peoples and Governments of Equatorial Guinea and of the Kingdom of Morocco.

At the Leon Mba International Airport, Santiago Eneme Ovono, was seen off by his Gabonese counterpart Ali Bongo and various top officials of the Equatorial Guinean Embassy in Libreville.

Czechoslovak Economic Delegation Discusses Oil

AB3001231091 Paris AFP in French 1012 GMT
28 Jan 91

[Text] Libreville, 28 Jan (AFP)—A delegation of Czechoslovak businessmen, led by Mr. Vaclav Junek from the Chemapol Praha Company, has just ended a visit to Gabon to negotiate the purchase of oil, official sources announced in Libreville today. The leader of the delegation told the press that his country's hopes to supply Gabon with public works equipment, high tension lines, and to build pipelines.

The delegation met the president of the Libreville Chamber of Commerce, Jean-Baptiste N'Gomo Obiang, as well as officials of the Ministries of Mines, Public Works, and Commerce. It also held talks with officials of Elf-Gabon, the Franceville Uranium Mining Company (COMUF), and the Ogooue Mining Company which exploits manganese. This is the second visit by a Czechoslovak business delegation to Gabon. The first was in October last year.

Production at Rabi-Kounga Field To Increase

AB3001230591 Libreville Africa No. 1
in French 1230 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Oil production from the Rabi-Kounga oil field will reach its highest this year, increasing from 135,000 to 145,000 barrels per day. This was disclosed by the managing director of Shell-Gabon, Philippe Emery, following a meeting with Gabonese Commerce and Industry Minister Andre Dieudonne Berre. It was also disclosed that small oil fields were discovered by Elf-Gabon and Shell Gabon around Rabi-Kounga. Their exploitation, however, will [word indistinct] heavy investment. It is worth noting that the Rabi-Kounga oil deposit, which started production in January 1990, is located in the heart of Equatorial Forest, 250 km from Port-Gentil, Gabon's economic capital. It is operated by Shell-Gabon which has a 52-percent share in it. Other associates in the operation are Elf-Gabon, the Elf-Aquitaine Company, and the State of Gabon.

***PRC Ambassador Outlines Aid Projects**

91AF0377B Libreville L'UNION in French 3 Oct 90 p 8

[Article signed Olivier Moucketou]

[Excerpts] There was a crowd Monday at the Chinese Embassy (PRC) in Gabon. Diplomats, Gabonese political figures, and other friends of China met to demonstrate their friendship toward the Chinese people, who are celebrating the 41st anniversary of liberation.

In the interview he granted, the Chinese ambassador, his Excellency An Feng-Shi, first discussed the event in its historic context. He said that the semifeudal and semi-colonial China of the era before the 1949 liberation let itself be mistreated and carved up by others while its people suffered the heavy oppression of imperialism.

feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism. When 1 October 1949 arrived, the people, under the leadership of the Communist Party, won a great victory by overthrowing what he called the "three mountains": oppression, feudalism, and the capitalism of middlemen. [passage omitted.]

On the world scene, China has always pursued a foreign policy of independence and peace, respecting the principles of peaceful coexistence that govern its relations with other countries. As for relations between Beijing and Libreville, his Excellency An Feng-Shi is convinced they are progressing well since their official establishment 20 April 1974. The numerous exchanges of high-ranking official delegations prove the friendship that exists between the two countries and the desire of Chinese and Gabonese business people for greater cooperation.

This greater cooperation is already taking form with the realization of joint projects, the best known of which are the construction in Libreville of the "Hospital of Sino-Gabonese Cooperation" and in Franceville, in the south-east of Gabon, of the "Hospital of Sino-Gabonese Friendship."

In the area of agriculture, Beijing has placed over 20 agricultural engineers at Gabon's disposal. Relations between China and Gabon also reach into the area of trade unions since the COSYGA [Gabonese Trade Union Confederation] and the Chinese labor affiliation maintain very exemplary relations. COSYGA recently received the gift of a clothing factory from its sister affiliate in China.

***1990 Oil Revenue: 475 Billion CFA Francs**

91AF0377A Libreville L'UNION in French 1 Oct 90 p 6

[Article signed AFP]

[Text] The rise in petroleum prices should have positive repercussions on the Gabonese economy but not enough to permit it to rebound to the flourishing situation before the oil crisis 10 years ago, according to economic experts in Libreville.

Since August, production grew by a third after the OPEC-imposed quota of 195,000 barrels per day was abandoned. All wells, according to oilmen, are producing at full capacity. Oil tankers are lined up at Cap Lopez near Port Gentil, at the Elf-Gabon oil terminal or at Gamba, where the Shell terminal is located, further south.

Production, according to minister of mines and hydrocarbons, Mr. Jean Ping, in an interview in mid-September, reached 300,000 barrels per day. This figure, according to Western economic sources, is a maximum and should not be exceeded in the near future. At this rate, Gabonese production for 1991 should be 15 million metric tons compared to 13.5 million metric tons in 1990, according to the chief of the department of mines and hydrocarbons.

The price of Gabonese petroleum is slightly below the average price calculated by OPEC but follows the market price. However, say Western economists, the shipments are usually sold three months in advance and at \$17 per barrel.

Rampant Speculation

The present price hikes, again according to sources in the industry, are due above all to rampant speculation. The total of stock market transactions is reportedly equal to five times the current shipments, explained an expert attending a recent meeting of oil people in Libreville.

In any case, Gabon's near-term oil revenues, which the minister declined to estimate, should grow appreciably and offset to a large extent the feared rise in import costs.

Western economists estimate oil income in 1991 to reach 550 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs (11 billion French francs), which is twice the 1988 figure. Receipts for 1990 have been put between 475 and 495 billion CFA francs.

Oil revenues, which until 1985 represented approximately 65 percent of budget revenues, fell seriously with the decline in prices and the dollar and in 1988 represented only a third of the country's income.

This sudden decline precipitated an economic crisis so serious as to require delicate budget balancing and hiked the Gabonese national debt to 750 billion CFA francs.

IMF Mission Expected

For 1990, in an austerity budget of some 400 billion CFA francs, the deficit was evaluated recently at 175 billion. In addition, an IMF mission on the subject is expected in Libreville after the October legislative elections.

The incidents that in the early months of the year marked the country's shift to political pluralism have not resolved the situation, according to observers, who have not lost hope.

Prudence seems just as appropriate in Gabonese economic circles as in those of the West, with hopes for an economic turnaround in the midterm hinging on political stability as well as on an increase in oil revenues.

Zaire

Former Libyan POW's Want To Return Home

AB2901171091 Dakar PANA in English 1547 GMT
29 Jan 91

[Text] Kinshasa, 29 Jan. (PANA)—A number of former Libyan prisoners in Chad now hosted by Zaire on humanitarian grounds have expressed their wish to return to their country, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said in Kinshasa Monday.

The head of the ICRC delegation for central Africa, John Grinling, told a news conference in the Zairian capital that some of the Libyans had applied for refugee status and the protection of the UN High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR). Grinling, who did not disclose the number of the prisoners, paid homage to Zairian authorities who, he said, facilitated meetings with the prisoners.

The Libyan war prisoners were evacuated from Chad by the US after the fall of President Hissein Habre and transferred to Zaire in December 1990.

FNC Urges Impartial Political Transition

AB2601143691 Dakar PANA in French 1654 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Dakar, 21 Jan (PANA)—Counsellor Kamanda Wa Kamanda, the first vice president of the Common Front of Nationalists (FNC) of Zaire, said in Dakar yesterday that he hoped that the authorization of the 19 political parties in his country would help to accelerate the ongoing democratization process and to establish an impartial and orderly transition there. Mr. Kamanda, who was rounding off his visit to the Senegalese capital where he attended the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute of Black Peoples (IPN), also expressed the hope that the definition and implementation of the next stages leading to the Third Republic would be subjected to the prior approval of the Zairian political class.

Mr. Kamanda expressed satisfaction with the fact that further prospects still exist for the 93 other political parties in Zaire to be granted authorization in addition to the first 19. The former Zairian minister of justice stressed his hope of seeing the democratization process in his country accelerated immediately. Mr. Kamanda said the new situation could make it possible to make up for the lost time—about nine months—between the address of 24 April 1990 [by President Mobutu] and today, and to establish an impartial and orderly transition. He stated the need for a consensual approach by the Zairian political class to define and implement the next phases leading to a democratic regime under the Third Republic.

He said his party is expecting, in this context, to participate in the formation of a government of national union, the holding of a constituent assembly, the writing of a new electoral code, the definition of an electoral timetable, and so on. Zairian Government sources note that of the 112 applications by political parties, the Zairian authorities have authorized 19 including the former People's Movement of the Revolution (MPR, the former sole and ruling party), the Union for Democracy and Social Progress, (UDPS), and the Common Front of Nationalists, (FCN), and so on.

Mr. Kamanda, who is 50 years old and a lawyer by training, has held important government and political positions in Zaire during the past 25 years, working for a short spell within the OAU General Secretariat. After working as secretary general of the Presidency at the time President Mobutu came to power (1965-1967), he successively became his country's representative at the United Nations in Geneva and in New York (1978-83).

He next occupied the positions of minister of foreign affairs (1983-1985), and minister of justice on two occasions (1985-1986, January to May 1990). Within the setup of the former sole ruling party, Mr. Kamanda Wa Kamanda was the first secretary general from 1986 to 1990.

African Socialist Party Legalized 29 Jan

AB3101113391 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] In Zaire, Dr. (Zhibi Ngoye's) African Socialist Party has been recognized. In an interview with Francis Amada, Dr. (Ngoye) expressed his feelings.

[Begin (Ngoye) recording] My feeling is one of joy and victory on behalf of the majority of Zairian people assembled under the umbrella of the African Socialist Party. We were recognized this morning among the 28 political parties that will henceforth direct Zaire's political life. It is also a feeling of pride, dignity, and much joy. I take the opportunity to thank all African Socialist Party activists, who have managed to maintain their dignity despite the tormentous period. Among these activists are workers of the permanent secretariat led by their secretary general who really did a lot of ground-work. [end recording]

Ethiopia

Official Says 600 Refugees Killed in Somalia

EA3101191891 Paris AFP in English 1630 GMT
31 Jan 91

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jan 31 (AFP)—Six hundred Ethiopian refugees in Somalia were massacred by a group of unidentified armed men ten days ago, a senior government official said here Thursday. Deputy Internal Affairs Minister, Mersha Ketsela, said the massacre took place at a place called Beledweyne, some 344 kilometres (about 215 miles) north of Mogadishu.

Mr. Mersha told a meeting of donor representatives that a government fact-finding mission had been told by witnesses that the raiders attacked six camps housing some 75,000 refugees and opened fire on them indiscriminately. Six hundred were shot dead while many others panicked and jumped into Wabi Shabelle River where they perished in floods, Mr. Mersha said adding that 20,000 others had managed to cross into Ethiopia.

"The government fact-finding mission actually saw 53 wounded returnees, mostly women and children, but 15 of them died after crossing into Ethiopia," he said. The donors' meeting was called to appeal for some 21,000 tonnes of food and nearly 21 million dollars in cash to cope with the influx of Somali refugees and Ethiopian returnees estimated at a total of 149,000.

(Somali rebels took a long-standing guerrilla war right into Mogadishu on December 30, last Sunday ousting President Mohamed Siad Barre after weeks of fighting that have ravaged the Somali capital, an interim government was due to be set up on Thursday.)

The World Food Programme (WFP) has promised to ship in 30 tonnes of supplementary food for children by next Sunday. The food will be trucked to refugee camps in the Ogaden region of Ethiopia. (The Ogaden, which Major-General Siad Barre made an ill-fated bid to annexe in 1977, is inhabited by ethnic Somalis.)

The WFP has also promised to cope with food requirements for the next two months by diverting food destined for other areas. Items needed most are tents, drugs, blankets, plastic sheets, utensils and jerry cans.

*Eritreans Launch Nacfa Share Corporation

91AF0339B London ADULIS in English Nov 90 p 11

[Text] A group of Eritrean businessmen have launched a new share company—Nacfa Corporation—to invest in a variety of commercial, service and manufacturing industries in Eritrea. The corporation will have a starting capital of 10 million US\$. Shares to the value of \$1,000 each are already on sale through a network of agencies the corporation has opened abroad.

*Chile 'Acknowledges' Cardoen Bomb Sale

91AF0339A London ADULIS in English Nov 90 p 5

[Text] Chile has shipped a consignment of cluster bombs to Ethiopia in a deal concluded between Addis Ababa and the former Chilean dictator, General Augusto Pinochet. The Chilean Ministry of Defence acknowledged that General Pinochet's government had authorized the sale of 1,658 cluster bombs to Ethiopia through an arms firm, the Industrias Cardoen.

Local press reports further indicated that the deal was procured by the Israeli government in order to circumvent US pressure. Israel had been supplying cluster bombs to Ethiopia as part of its military aid to the regime but stopped after pressure from Washington, a Chilean defence journalist reported.

The Ethiopian air force have been using cluster bombs to devastating effect on raids against the civilian population in Eritrea. Ethiopian MiG fighter planes showered cluster bombs on the city market in Massawa killing 55 civilians and maiming 111 others in a single such raid on April 22 alone.

*First Commodity Tea Crop Harvested

91AF0391A Kampala THE STAR in English
1 Dec 90 pp 4, 9

[Article: "The Ethiopian Tea"]

[Text] Addis-Ababa "Drink tea from Ethiopia." The advertisement isn't to be found in Ethiopia yet but it may soon become a standard both in and out of that country.

In 1990 Ethiopia has gathered its first commodity crop of tea. Two state-owned plantations in the south-west of Ethiopia have produced 1,500 tons of top quality tea. The plantations had been laid out in 1984 and occupy an area of 1,610 hectares. The harvest will save 8 million on imports.

In expert estimate, Ethiopia is capable of growing enough tea to meet domestic demand and sell some internationally.

A competitive tea industry would put an end to Ethiopia's dependence on coffee as the main source of foreign currency.

Kenya

Ex-Somali Head Siad's Family Arrives in Nairobi

EA0102105091 Nairobi THE STANDARD
in English 1 Feb 91 p 2

[Article by Bakr Ogle: "Barre's Family Members Arrive"]

[Text] Some members of deposed President Mohamed Siad Barre's family including his daughter and his sons-in-law who served as powerful ministers under his

regime, landed at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [Nairobi] last night. The party, who came aboard a chartered plane from the Kismaayo sea port, where they fled to with Siad Barre last weekend, included the former minister in the president's office in charge of internal security, Mr Ahmed Suleiman Daffe. The other former minister, who held the education portfolio in the crumbled regime, was named only as Mr Abdullahi Ibrahim Mireh. Both ministers were married to his daughters. They were accompanied by four young children, three boys and a girl, as they emerged from the airport terminal, looking haggard and tired. They were met by four officials from the Embassy of Somalia.

They blatantly objected to any interview with "THE STANDARD" and at one moment nearly turned violent as the elderly Mr. Suleiman threatened to break off the camera of our photographer.

"You go and write anything you want. We are not going to let you know anything. You can even say that Siad Barre accompanied us when we arrived," Mr Mireh roared back. Mr Suleiman, in spite of the situation, wore a smart jacket and tie, while his other colleague was in a plain light blue Kaunda suit.

Siad Barre's daughter could only helplessly gaze at us, as she was immediately whisked into a waiting London-look taxi. The men were ferried in the official mercedes benz car of the Somalia ambassador to Kenya, who was not himself present to receive them.

"THE STANDARD" was reliably told that the Siad Barre family members hoped to link up with the fleeing ageing former head of state some time over this weekend in Kenya before leaving for the United Arab Emirates, where they have been offered political asylum. Siad Barre is said to be travelling by road on his way to Kenya, along with the remaining members of the family.

More than 230 Somali nationals fleeing the conflict in their country have arrived in Lamu in five dhows between Tuesday and yesterday. Two former cabinet ministers in the ousted President Siad Barre's government were among 18 people who arrived on board a small dhow on Wednesday morning. Their names were given by authorities in Lamu as Mr Adam Mohamed Ali, a former minister for labor and sports, and Mr Ahmed Ashkir Badjan, a former minister for education. Earlier on Tuesday night, three other dhows docked in at the Lamu jetty, carrying 134 Somalis, and yesterday morning another dhow arrived carrying 70 others.

The two ministers and the other 150 were transported in two government lorries to the Jomo Kenyatta showground at Mkomani on Wednesday afternoon, arriving there at about midnight. The 70 other Somalis were reported to be under security personnel until transport arrangements have been made to ferry them to the showground, which has been turned into a receiving ground for the Somalis.

Already camped at the showground are more than 1,000 Somali refugees, who have been arriving in Mombasa since the war erupted in Mogadishu four weeks ago. They include Mr Ahmed Jama Abdulle, a former minister in the president's office, and Mr Ahmed Habib Ahmed.

The southern Somali rebel group, the Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM), yesterday vowed to continue the battle "for a sustainable national coalition government" in what appeared to point towards failed talks.

Government Plans 15 Percent Expenditure Cuts

91AF0378A Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English
28 Nov 90 pp 1, 2

[Article by Kenneth Mwema]

[Text] The government has instituted austerity measures, reducing recurrent and development expenditures for ministries and State corporations and freezing the filling of vacancies by 40 percent. A circular issued on November 16 by the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Vice-President and Minister for Finance, Mr. Charles Mbindyo, says the measures, which will reduce expenditure by ministries by 15 percent, should be enforced immediately. Mr. Mbindyo says in the circular distributed to accounting officers in various ministries and state corporations that due to the critical balance of payments situation and the continuing Gulf crisis, it had become necessary to institute the measures. The measures to cut spending include reduction of imports by ministries and state corporations and cuts in the budgeted expenditure for the current financial year. "Taking into account the financial constraints and the need to reduce government budgetary deficit and domestic borrowings by the Treasury and state corporations, the Cabinet has directed that the measures be implemented immediately," said the circular. The austerity measures contained in the circular are:

- All ministries must effect reductions on their projected expenditures on salaries and allowances by not filling at least 40 percent of the current vacancies.
- Ministries must defer purchases and replacement of vehicles and plant and equipment to the next financial year and effect reductions in their recurrent votes for the current financial year.
- Ministries must effect immediately a 25 percent reduction in the budgeted allocations for transport operating expenses for 1990/91 and take other measures to enforce strict controls on the use of government vehicles.
- All ministries must effect 15 percent reduction in the budgeted expenditures for projects and programs in

the development budget which are funded entirely by government budgetary resources.

- Ministries must not incur additional expenditures or commitments during the current financial year over the levels already approved in the budget after taking into account the reductions contained in the circular.

Ministries and departments are directed that any additional expenditure requirements will only be allowed if they are 100 percent supported by external grants. In all other cases, these should be met by a reallocation of the existing budget provisions. This should be in accordance to clear priorities within each ministry, and where a reallocation is not possible, additional expenditures and commitments should be postponed to the next financial year.

- Ministries must not incur new commitments on 100 percent government financed projects during the current financial year. The budgeted funds available in each ministry for such projects, after taking into account the reductions, should be used to pay outstanding bills and commitments.

The circular further says that expenditure reductions should be reflected in the revised estimates proposals to be submitted to the Treasury by December 28, 1990.

Accounting officers are also requested to note that in view of the financial constraints, there will be no supplementary provisions in the revised estimates for this financial year, except for expenditures already authorized by the Treasury in writing.

Accounting officers are further informed that the exchequer issues for recurrent and development votes will now be reduced with immediate effect.

They should, therefore, take immediate action to inform Authority to Incur Expenditure (AIE) holders of the reduction in budget provisions, the circular says.

Accounting officers are also required to take measures to avoid any excess vote, overdrawing of cash books and incurring of commitments or placement of orders which cannot be met within the reduced budget provisions during the current financial year.

At the same time, the circular outlines austerity measures to conserve foreign exchange. These also cover state corporations.

Ministries and state corporations are required to reduce direct and indirect imports immediately.

Ministries and state corporations are directed to control the use of vehicles and restrict official travel to high priority services such as police ambulances and fire-fighting.

The circular also curtails the use of government and state corporation vehicles on Fridays, weekends and public holidays, except for very high priority services.

All purchases of vehicles whether imported, purchased through local dealers or assemblers for Government ministries, departments and state corporations, except in cases where they are financed 100 percent by donors has been stopped.

Purchases of imported plant, equipment and machinery whether imported or locally purchased are to cease except for high priority development projects or those financed by donors.

Ministries and departments are to stop further negotiations and contracting of commercial loans. They are not to enter into any fresh commercial loan agreements during the financial year.

The circular further outlines measures to be enforced for financial management of state corporations.

It says that corporations tendency to delay repayment or to default on local and foreign loans guaranteed by the government and delays in payment of dividends to the government was likely to aggravate the situation.

And to control the situation, corporations are required to consider debt service obligations as the first charge on their revenues and other income.

State corporations in default of debt servicing and loan repayments to the government must reduce expenditure in other areas, go slow on the implementation of new projects and reduce their financial investments to meet the obligations, the circular says.

The Treasury will not guarantee any more fresh foreign or local borrowing by corporations in default, warns the circular.

The Treasury will in appropriate cases consider reducing the parent ministry's expenditure ceilings for payments made on behalf of corporations defaulting in debt servicing.

Where the government is being forced to meet debt obligations of a state corporation such a corporation will be put under detailed security and recommendations made to the cabinet for their restructuring and other measures to reduce financial losses.

The circular also directs state corporations in arrears in tax payments to the government to clear them immediately. Those in arrears in dividend payments are to clear them up to the 1989/90 financial year.

Holding companies of state corporations are required to take legal and administrative arrangements to ensure that all arrears are paid to the Treasury directly instead of the holding state corporations.

According to a detailed schedule of expenditure and the reductions of finances, the government is expected to save a total of Sh[shilling] 314,420,000 from freezing the filling of 40 percent of existing vacancies in government ministries.

The authorized posts for the current financial year were 27,573 which have now been reduced to 10,481.

The government will save total of Sh483,185,800 through reductions in the purchase of vehicles and transport expenses.

In development expenditure, the government will through the austerity measures save an estimated Sh300,000,000. This is from a figure of Sh1,941,279,562 for the 1990/91 estimates which comprises also of grants and loans to finance development expenditure.

The circular lists the reduction in expenditure by state corporations as follows:

—Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation by Sh252 million; Kenya Power and Lighting Company by Sh100 million; Kenya Ports Authority by Sh200 million; Kenya Railways Corporation by 17 million; Agriculture Finance Corporation Sh48 million; ICDC by Sh48 million; East African Fine Spinners by Sh9 million; Horticultural Development Corporation by Sh9 million; Kenya Industrial Estates by Sh26 million; Kenya Bureau of Standards by Sh24 million; East African Portland Cement Company by Sh25 million; Milling Corporation of Kenya by Sh31 million; Kenya Broadcasting Corporation by Sh120 million; Kenya Wine Agencies by Sh36 million; National Water Pipeline Corporation by Sh120 million; Kenya Utalii College by Sh120 million; Catering Levy Trustees by Sh150 million; Kenya Literature Bureau by Sh22 million; Jomo Kenyatta Foundation by Sh2 million; Mount Kenya Textiles by Sh2 million. Total savings from reductions in expenditures by State corporations will save the Government Sh1,362,000,000.

Recently President Moi advised Kenyans to prepare for economic austerity due to the on-going Gulf crisis.

Somalia

Interim President Holds Meetings, Speaks

Meets Reconciliation Committee

EA3101173491 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the interim president of the Somali Republic, today participated in a meeting of the Reconciliation Committee which was held at Villa Baidoo, Mogadishu. Addressing the meeting, Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, outlined the obligations and responsibilities the Somali Reconciliation Committee has to shoulder in shaping the Somali people's future and finding a solution to the great problems facing the nation. He told the committee that it was important to overcome the problems through consensus, cooperation, and total commitment.

The president said that the first priority of the interim government is to establish contact quickly with all armed

and unarmed rebel groups, so as to hold joint discussions on matters relating to the people's future. He said this meeting would be held on 28 February 1991. Speaking about the measures taken so far, Mr. Ali said that he had established relations with the Somali Patriotic Movement, whose army is stationed 30 km from Mogadishu [words indistinct]. He added that he has also made contact with the Somali National Movement and that a positive reply was expected.

The interim president further said that it is not good to inflict harm on tribal basis on the Somali people, who are a totally Muslim nation. He called on those who authorized the pillaging, looting, and killing to refrain from these offenses. He said these people would not be tolerated. Mr. Ali Mahdi has called on those carrying guns in the city, if they are rebels, to go to their positions, and non-rebels to take weapons out of the city.

The president appealed to the Reconciliation Committee and clerics to participate in finding a solution to the existing problems. He told them to organize themselves into several committees and embark upon ways of reviving the Somali tradition. Present were Mr. Omar Arteh Ghalib, the interim prime minister of the Somali Republic, and Mr. Mohamed Hawadle Madar, the chairman of the Reconciliation Committee.

Addresses 'Armed Fronts'

EA3101175991 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Today Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, acting president of Somalia, sent a letter to all the armed fronts of Somalia. The letter reads as follows:

Given the new [word indistinct] situation in the country resulting from the fall of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre's regime, all armed fronts and opposition organizations are faced with the new responsibility of safeguarding the unity and sovereignty of the Somali people and realizing aspirations such as social justice, equality, and democratization of all Somali people [word indistinct]. As all fronts and opposition organizations have said before, the first indispensable step is to cooperate in organizing a major conference for the Somali people's salvation open to all armed fronts, opposition organizations, elders, intellectuals, and religious leaders to discuss the future of Somalia and the Somali people.

Responsibility for organizing the major conference for the Somali people's salvation is entrusted to members of the People's Salvation Committee, which will draft a new democratic constitution which will be presented to a popular referendum. This committee is also responsible for appointing an interim government representing all fronts and opposition organizations: a government of national unity [last four words in English]. This will lead to democratic elections for a new parliament. While all fronts and opposition groups agree on the basic factors relating to holding a major conference for the people's

salvation within a short time, the new situation necessitates forming an interim government, a caretaker government [last two words in English]. [Words indistinct] out of the government of dictator Siad Barre.

This government exists as an interim government responsible for holding a major conference for the people's salvation which will elect a government representing all fronts and opposition organizations, a government of national unity [last four words in English].

One of this government's indispensable responsibilities is to ensure that our country's international relations are not severed, particularly with friendly countries and our neighbors from whom we need massive support in emergency aid at this stage to help reconstruct the country and resettle the people who have fled.

Since everyone is aware of the need to hold a major conference for the Somali people's salvation, the acting president proposes [word indistinct] that all armed fronts and opposition organizations should understand the following points: The major conference for the Somali people's salvation is to be held in Mogadishu on 18 [as heard] February 1991; the armed fronts, opposition organizations, and interim government are to work hard preparing for the major conference and are to try hard so it yields the major results awaited by all Somali people.

USC Communique on Interim Government's Role

EA3101174491 Mogadishu Domestic Service
in Somali 1115 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] A communique issued by the United Somali Congress [USC] says that following the overthrow of the Siad Barre regime, and hence the liberation of the capital Mogadishu by the USC and the liberation of other regions of the country, it became necessary to form a caretaker government in order to maintain general links with the outside world pending a meeting among opposition groups.

The communique adds that the USC gives first priority to maintaining the unity of the Somali people with a view to holding consultations on issues pertaining to the future of the nation in a democratic manner. In that light, the movement has therefore held consultations with other representatives of Somali movements based in Mogadishu including intellectuals and religious leaders. It was after these consultations that it was agreed that a caretaker government should be formed from among the Somali people in order to end the problems and provide essentials.

The communique issued by the USC adds that the caretaker government will stay in power until all the leaders of the armed and unarmed opposition groups meet for consultations on the future of the country with a view to forming a broad-based government.

The movement hopes that all the opposition groups will understand that the USC does not intend to form a

government by itself, but a government representing all opposition groups. It also congratulates all the armed rebel movements for the part they played in overthrowing dictator Siad.

Rebel SNM Says More Siad Soldiers Surrender

EA0102084891 (Clandestine) Radio of the
Somali National Movement in Somali
1600 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Remnants of the runaway Siad soldiers are continuing to surrender to Somali National Movement [SNM] forces. One such surrender took place at (?Kabaad) [northwest region of Somalia] and [name indistinct], while those still holding out and refusing to surrender are being uprooted by SNM fighters. The misguided soldiers who are still taking orders from bloody Abdulaziz Ali Barre [commander of 27th Division in the Northwest region under Siad] and are based in Gabiile, Arabsiyo, Hargeysa and Oodweyne are being mopped up, while others have suffered miserable defeats at the hands of the righteous SNM fighters. Most of these soldiers have been captured, while others have surrendered and others have fled to other parts where remnants of the runaway dictator are still holding out.

People Urged To 'Stop Firing Bullets,' Unite

EA0102124891 Mogadishu Domestic Service
in Somali 0507 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Excerpt] Brothers a beautiful morning has indeed dawned for us, praise be to God, the merciful, compassionate. We are required to attend to the great tasks ahead of us. This is how we can overcome the difficulties we have been through and focus on the realization of our objectives, God willing. Every nation enjoys peace and tranquillity after throwing away the vestiges of an old tyrannical regime and they then busily engage in trying to rebuild their shattered nation in the spirit of brotherhood. [Words indistinct] difficulties, therefore, what is needed now [words indistinct] this our guiding factor has to be unity, since displaced people who fled their homes due to the lack [words indistinct] to rebuild the destroyed towns and to strive hard to restore general and essential services. These are the calls which the interim government and the reconciliation committee have issued to the people.

Brothers, when people are faced with problems it is better to forget them quickly and to look forward to a better future. What is the point in taking vengeance by killing a fellow brother? What is one to gain from such an evil deed? What is the point of wasting bullets by firing them aimlessly; bullets cost so much in hard currency.

The aged, the pregnant, the sick, and children are trickling back to the city. It is, therefore, wise to stop firing bullets as a sign of jubilation over the fallen regime. [passage omitted]

More Reaction to Interim President's Appointment**USC Sources on Appointment**

PM3101152691 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 30 Jan 91 pp 1-4

[Unattributed report: "Businessman Assumes Presidency In Somalia"]

[Excerpt] Nairobi, London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, news agencies—The United Somali Congress [USC] movement, which is in total control of the capital, Mogadishu, has announced the appointment of Ali Mahdi Mohamed as Somalia's new president after former President Mohamed Siad Barre left the capital for Chisimayu in the South on his way to Kenya.

Circles in the USC movement have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that former member of parliament Ali Mahdi (of the Hoya [as transliterated] tribe) was chosen without consulting the other major organizations in Somalia.

The USC movement believes that the new president's task is to prepare the country for elections whose broad outlines will be drawn up by leaders of the three opposition organizations who will meet shortly in Mogadishu. [passage omitted]

SSDF Official Reacts

EA3101202791 London BBC World Service
in English 1709 GMT 31 Jan 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The appointment of a new interim president in Somalia, Ali Mahdi Mohamed, by USC [United Somali Congress] rebels who took control of Mogadishu four days ago, putting Siad Barre to flight can, hardly be said to have unified the country. There are reports of a continuing exodus of refugees towards and other rebel groups such as the SNM [Somali National Movement], and even elements of the USC are unhappy with the Mogadishu appointments because they were not consulted. On the line to Nairobi, Robin White asked veteran exiled opposition figure, Hassan Ali Mireh, of the SSDF [Somali Salvation Democratic Front] what he felt about these reservations.

[Begin recording] [Mireh] We agree with them really and we have seen that this a national problem and there should be a national solution to it and not just the solution imposed by one party or by any one movement or by any one group, otherwise there can be no real, genuine peace in the country. At the same time, there is not really a government that covers the whole territory and we feel it leads really to more confusion, to more conflict and that is not what Somalia needs. We have suffered enough.

[White] So, what do you want to happen now?

[Mireh] Well, we would like to see a meeting, a conference of opposition movements, of elders, of the Manifesto Group, of the USC itself and to sort out, discuss the problems nationally, have a real dialogue and I think that we do not care who becomes the president. It is not be a problem for the country who is the president. The problem for the country is to have a government, a genuine democratic government, agreed upon by all Somalis.

[White] Where should this meeting take place?

[Mireh] Well, I think it should take place somewhere, let us say, in a friendly country. At this moment, Somalia itself is not safe. The capital of Somalia is not really a safe place to hold a meeting.

[White] Why not?

[Mireh] It is confused. It is still in the shock of the terror that happened between the departing dictatorship and the new victors in the field. So, it is not really safe. Refugees are pouring out of the country into Kenya. So, under such atmosphere, it is very difficult to hold a free national conference.

[White] How about you going back there yourself to join in the dialogue?

[Mireh] Well, the organization, as you know, will appoint someone; whether it is me or some other individual or what not. It is not a matter of an individual, it is a matter of the principle, you know, that there should be a meeting of the opposition forces in the interest of really arriving at a national solution rather than, you know, some form of solution imposed upon the country.

[White] Don't you feel that this government now needs some support and people like yourself, elder statesmen like yourself should rush back home and give them some support?

[Mireh] That is a good question. They should have really realized that. And instead of forming a government, they should have called a meeting to show a really good faith to the country, so that they can win the trust of the people, the trust of the opposition movements. But now, everything, you know, is shrouded with distrust and suspicion. Why the rush to establish a presidency and prime ministry, is that the solution?

[White] You said that refugees were continuing to flee the country. What kind of numbers are they arriving in?

[Mireh] I really cannot tell you the numbers, but Kismaayo, which is the southern tip closer to the borders of Kenya, is really overflooded with refugees. People are running away, and most of them are trying to come to Kenya. [end recording]

Tanzania

President Receives Iraqi, Rwandan Emissaries

EA0102110091 *Dar es Salaam Domestic Service*
in Swahili 1700 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Dar es Salaam—President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has once again demanded that the ongoing war in the Persian Gulf be stopped immediately because, he said, its harmful effects have already started to engulf the whole world. President Mwinyi said this today when he met an emissary from Iraq, Mr. ('Isam al-Dahi), at State House in Dar es Salaam. The Iraqi special emissary came to explain to President Mwinyi Iraq's position vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis.

President Mwinyi also met the Rwandan minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Mr. Casimir Bizimungu. In their talks, President Mwinyi underlined that he believed that a permanent solution for border disputes among the countries of east and central Africa would be found if the refugee problems in those areas were ironed out. The Rwandan minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation briefed President Mwinyi on the ongoing strife in Rwanda.

Uganda

*Security Force Composed Only of Nationals Urged

91AF0390A *Kampala THE GUIDE in English*
22 Nov 90 pp 4, 8

[Text] Last Sunday, 11 November, 1990, the government issued a statement announcing the retirement of all non-citizen military Officers in the NRA [National Resistance Army]. In a statement read over the National Radio, Officers who will be retired and had exemplary behaviour would be awarded all retirement benefits. To carry out the exercise, a committee is to be set up, headed by the Army Commander, to find out non-citizens.

The step taken by the government to rid the Army of non-citizens is to say the least, a very welcome move which all Ugandans have been demanding all along. On several occasions since 1986, Ugandans have been expressing concern over the increasing number of non-citizens in the Ugandan Security Forces, in the civil Service and other public Institutions. Many became skeptical about the Press and Sectarian law which was hastily tabled and passed by the NRC [National Resistance Council], believing that the law was intended to protect non-citizens in Public offices and in the NRC especially the Rwandese who were in the NRA.

Although the government constantly denied having non-citizens, to be specific, Rwandese, in the NRA fighting wing of the NRM [National Resistance Movement], the massive desertion of the Rwandese from the NRA, to

invade Rwanda to overthrow Habyalimana's government, proved to the World that there existed non-nationals in the National Resistance Army.

One important thing must be born in mind now. The issue at hand is not simply to retire non-nationals but to create/establish a truly National Security organ, that is a National Army, National Police Force including Intelligence organs. The embarrassment caused to Uganda by the invasion of Rwanda by foreigners from the NRA some of whom held high positions even in Government, was just enough for Ugandans to learn the dangers of having foreigners in a National Army. No doubt they had no Uganda at heart and everybody sees how dangerous it was to entrust them with National Security.

If the retirement exercise is to succeed, there is need to establish who is a national and who is not. This can effectively be done by RC I from where all officers and men should be screened to ascertain their nationality. RC I of the birth places of the soldiers with the assistance of parents, will no doubt provide reliable information. Otherwise a mere face to face interview between the commission and the soldiers is likely to fail since it is not difficult for one to acquire a Ugandan name and claim to belong to a Ugandan clan. "Adam is a shining example."

Further still, it will be hard to believe in the outcome of the committee that is going to be set up, for some members of the committee might have been involved in the recruitment of those to be screened or been with them in the bush and can therefore hardly approve their retirement.

The sectarian law is also likely to pose an obstacle, in the identification of non-nationals otherwise it will have to be overlooked for the time being.

The army issue is a constitutional matter which could better be dealt with by a constituency Assembly. Whatever claims are made to justify the Army being National, will be unbelievable and bound to be rendered meaningless with time.

It will also be recalled that Uganda's problems have all along been stemming from the Army. In 1966 Obote used the army to storm the Lubiri (Palace) of the Former King of Buganda and first President of Uganda. With the backing of the Army Obote abrogated the 1962 constitution. In 1971 Amin, commander of the Army took over power and since then the gun has been instrumental in the change of government in this country and all governments we have had, have come about as a result of military manouvres.

As long as we still have foreigners in the National Forces and Sectarian tendencies in the forces still rampant Ugandans should be prepared for more suffering. It is now time to have a truly national army free of sectarianism, an army that Ugandans can be proud of otherwise we stand to be condemned by the future generations.

***Firms Allege Defense Ministry in Default**

91AF0390B Kampala THE NEW VISION in English
26 Nov 90 pp 1, 12

[Text] A number of companies have been financially crippled following non-payment of hundreds of millions of shillings owed to them by the Ministry of Defence. The worst hit is the Uganda Bata Shoe Company Ltd, which has been forced to lay off about 130 of their 150 workers and temporarily close the factory in Industrial Area beginning this month.

By yesterday, the company had only 20 workers still at the factory.

A source close to the company told THE NEW VISION that Defence Ministry owed Bata 226m/=. The debt was incurred through supplies of army boots, canvas and leather shoes. At the same time footwear worth 150m/= lies in the company's stores awaiting collection. The total amount owed to the company is 376m/=.

The company became financially strained following a 2b/= contract with the Ministry of Defence. The company was to supply green plastic boots, green canvas and brown leather shoes, specifically designed for military use. This contract took effect in February, 1990. The footwear until October, had been made from local canvas from NYTIL, leather from Uganda Tanning Industry Ltd and a special material PVC imported from Kenya for the plastic boots.

The contract was signed with an advance payment of 75m/= by the Ministry. "It was a real mirage," said the source. He said that the company in bid to speed up production and supply, borrowed another 75m/= from the Central Bank. This enabled them to supply footwear worth 75m/= in May, 1990. No monies were paid between June and August despite several invoices sent to the Ministry. In September, however, the company received 84m/= from the Ministry of Defence, and that was the last payment.

Bata continued supply to the Ministry although no payments were effected," said the source. In October, however, the company stopped deliveries although production still continued.

A company source said 13 Bata shoe shops in the country will close down after stock is exhausted. He said the company was in dilemma because it could not dispose of army orders to any other customers.

The Ministry owes over 1b/= to oil companies notably Shell, Total and Agip. THE NEW VISION learnt more money is owed to Shell than the other two. Officials at Shell declined to give figures.

Agip management said due to financial squeeze it had cut down supplies to the army.

The same problem is facing Uganda Transport Company (UTC) and People's Transport Company (PTC). Over

400m/= is owed to PTC by the Ministry. The management in Jinja was reluctant to discuss the matter but it confirmed the debt saying: "We have received continuous promises from the Ministry but no payment has come through."

UTC officials said the Ministry of Defence debt was 219m/= as of 31 October, 1990. They said that the money had accumulated as a result of unpaid hire services for movement of troops and through bus warrants, used by soldiers.

Contacted on Friday, the Director of Finance (NRA) [National Resistance Army], Major Arthur Musinguzi, admitted the indebtedness facing the Ministry. "It is true we owe some people money, but we have not failed to pay the debt," he said.

"The Treasury has released some money, and we will early next week pay our suppliers," he added.

***Central Bank Head: Inflation Down, Savings Up**

91AF0390D Kampala WEEKLY TOPIC in English
23 Nov 90 p 8

[Article by Joachim Buwembo]

[Text] The currency in circulation fell from 45 percent to 41 percent of the total money supply between January and September, the Central Bank governor, Mr Kikonyogo Nyonyintono has revealed.

The governor, who was being installed as president of the Uganda Institute of Bankers last week, also said that the annual inflation rate has dropped from 360 percent in 1987 to 30 percent today.

Another monetary achievement Kikonyogo said bankers should be proud of is the increase in savings. Private time and savings deposits that stood at 13 percent of money supply in January 1990 rose to 16 percent in September.

While money supply grew by Shs.[shillings] 8.2 billion between June and September 1990, Kikonyogo proudly announced Shs. 3.5 billion was captured in savings. Between January and September, total money supply grew by Shs. 9.1 billion. During the same period, total deposits grew by Shs. 14.8 billion.

During the same period, money supply grew by 23 percent, total deposits grew at a faster rate of 40 percent. The governor congratulated the banking system for capturing most of the new money created.

Since the currency reform, he said, the Central Bank has taken a number of initiatives and innovations. They include interest rate and exchange rate management, liberalisation of trade, instituting forex bureaux, fostering growth of inter-bank lending, and crop finance support.

Kikonyogo decried the effects of imported inflation, especially the current one resulting from the gulf crisis. He said this type is less responsive to changes in the monetary policy, making it difficult to finetune monetary policy in such a way as to either target or exempt certain sectors of the economy from the impact.

***EEC Grants \$230 Million, Other Benefits**

91AF0390E Kampala THE NEW VISION in English
7 Dec 90 pp 1, 18

[Article by George Fawule]

[Text] Uganda is to receive ECU [European currency units] 177 million, an equivalent of US \$230 million, under the Fourth Lome Convention for the period 1990-1995.

This is contained in an agreement signed in Kampala yesterday between Uganda Government and the European Economic Community (EEC) at Sheraton Hotel.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Uganda Government by the Minister of Finance, Dr Crispus Kiyonga, while the Deputy Director General for Development of the EEC Commission, Mr Philippe Soubestre, signed for his organisation.

It was also initialled by Mr T.Oursin, Director of the Eastern African and Pacific Department of the European Investment Bank.

The funds will be available to Uganda in three components comprising: ECU 145 million in the form of grants; ECU 15 million in form of risk capital managed by the European Investment Bank; and ECU 17 million as an initial allocation from funds set aside for structural adjustment in support of the economic reform process.

A statement issued after the signing of the agreement said that Uganda will also benefit substantially from other programmes and instruments, including regional funds for East African countries; and assistance under the STABEX [Export Stabilization Fund] system plus aid funds for refugees and returnees.

Uganda would also benefit from the supplementary structural adjustment assistance, depending on the country's economic reform progress.

Before the final conclusion of the agreement, both the Uganda Government and EEC officials, reviewed in detail the performance of Uganda's Economic Recovery Programme and discussed the country's development strategies for the 1990-1995 period.

The statement said that the EEC fully supports Uganda Government in the process of her economic restructuring aimed at improved living standards of the country's population.

The EEC, the statement added, also encourages the Uganda Government to implement the reforms decided with its principal donors in order to ensure sustainable economic growth.

It was also noted that in addition to yesterday's EEC/Uganda Government accord, agreement was further reached on assistance managed by the Commission being focused in the priority sectors such as transport, rural development and health which will continue to receive EEC support.

The statement said that the Fourth Lome Convention places particular emphasis on the "people-centred" development through the involvement of local communities and non-governmental bodies in the development process, a concept which embodied in the new Uganda-EEC agreement. The promotion of private enterprise and initiative has also been incorporated within the agreement, the statement said.

The risk capital funds managed by the European Investment Bank are expected to support small and medium size enterprises, agro-industry and manufacturing, and the productive infrastructure.

It was pointed out in the statement that the Fourth Lome Convention, which is a ten-year agreement running up to the end of the decade, will come into force after the ratification process is finalised next year.

Uganda has been one of the first signatories to ratify the new Convention and is one of the first to conclude an agreement with the EEC based on the new Convention, the statement said.

Among those present were the Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Mr J. Mavania-Nkangi; the Minister of Local Government, Mr J. Bidandi-Ssali; and the PS for Education, Rev. Fr. Pius Tibanyendera and the EEC Delegate in Kampala, Mr Karl Harbo.

De Klerk Addresses Opening of Parliament

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[Address by South African State President F.W. de Klerk at the opening of Parliament in Cape Town—live]

[Text] [In Afrikaans] Mister Speaker, members of Parliament: From this chamber, one day more than a year ago, South Africa was finally placed on a new course. Events followed each other rapidly, and I have no doubt that our country is now irreversibly on the road to a new dispensation. The goal is to offer to all South Africans, in all walks of life, full rights and opportunities through the removal of racial discrimination.

Within the short space of one year great progress has been made. The government is determined to build, effectively and with determination and speed, on the foundations that have been laid. South Africa cannot afford a collapse in the dynamic process of reform. For this reason the process of fundamental reform and all that goes with it is of the highest priority, not only among politicians but among all of us. Organizations, newspaper editors, academics, churches, and in particular the man in the street think and discuss and describe reform continually. It cannot be otherwise because the future of our country and every one of its people is indeed at stake.

Two basic questions apply to reform: What has to be done, and what has to be done away with? Today I want to place the emphasis on the positive, but also I will make announcements about those things which are to be done away with.

[Changes to English] The initiatives of the past year have prepared the way for a new South Africa. Our task this year will be to give greater content to our vision of what the new South Africa should be like. Simultaneously, we have to give impetus to our resolve to build a new South African nation. There were centrifugal forces that promoted confrontation, hatred, and violence, that thrived on envy, suspicion, and fear, and which alienated South Africans from one another.

Against this, the vision of a new South Africa brought most South Africans increasingly closer together. In most hearts there is a yearning for peaceful solutions and cooperation. The majority are tired of the negative and the destructive. They wish to take hands, but do not always know how to do this. These facts place the responsible and positive leadership corps in our country before this challenge. [sentence as heard] The time has arrived for nation-building.

I wish to accept this challenge today, and invite every leader in every field to join me in doing so. In South Africa, the task of nation-building is formidable because of the diversity of our population. We lack the natural cohesion of a single culture and language that frequently forms the cornerstone of nationhood. Consequently, we shall have to rely heavily on the other cornerstone—that of values, common values, and ideals.

I have taken the liberty, on the basis of an analysis of the views of a wide spectrum of leaders, of formulating a set of these common values and ideals. Without laying claim to it being complete or the last word on the subject, I believe that it may serve as a point of departure in the search for a national consensus. The full text will be released today under the title "Manifesto for the New South Africa."

I believe that these values and ideals could provide the cohesiveness of a new South African nation, of a nation that will include all peace-loving South Africans on an equal footing. Furthermore, a manifesto such as this will be able to be associated with a bill of human rights, to which the government is already committed. It should also give direction to the constitutional negotiations that lie ahead.

In a nutshell, the basic values and ideals as formulated in the manifesto and as they have crystallized out of the national debate could be summarized thus: The basis of the new South Africa should be justice. The great majority of South Africans desire a just state which will guarantee basic liberties, rule out arbitrary actions and domination, and which will require and assure responsible citizenship.

Everyone desires a just dispensation in which fairness will be the point of departure. On this basis, South Africans ask that the new South African should epitomize the following objectives: They want peace; they wish to be assured that they and their families and their property will be safe; they want prosperity; they wish to share in a sound and growing economy that will make employment opportunities and better living conditions possible for everybody and allow everybody to reap the fruits of their labors.

They want progress; they wish to have effective educational, health, and welfare services, as well as adequate housing and recreational facilities. They want participation in democratic institutions. They wish to feel that they are part of government on every level, and that they are not dominated, and that they may be proud, together, of our country, South Africa.

Justice, peace, prosperity, progress, participation. On these broad basic values and ideals we can found a new South African nation. They do not belong exclusively to any political party. They are universal. They find expression in the hearts and dreams of all successful, prosperous, and stable nations. We may differ about how we should realize these values and ideals. It is in the nature of political parties within a democracy to differ with one another, but we have to agree with one another on basic value systems.

There simply is no room in the new South Africa for the alternatives to these values and ideals. There is no room for injustice, tyranny, domination, violence, or for social degradation and economic decline. South Africa dare not make the mistakes that have led to impoverishment and dictatorship in so many countries of the world. Therefore, no matter the pressure, or from whence it comes, I shall not be instrumental in creating a dispensation here that is out of step with the basic values and ideals of the world's successful democracies and economies. [applause]

If we build the new South African nation on the foundation of these values and ideals, a good future awaits us and our children. We shall be able to unite the rich diversity of our population behind common goals. We shall be able to settle our differences through cooperation and peaceful negotiation. We shall be able to lay the foundations for a new, comprehensive South African nation which will include all our people, with allegiance and loyalty to our common fatherland.

We shall become part of the international community, finally, fully, and with honor and dignity, and play a full part in the rest of Africa and the world. We shall be able to enter the new century as one of the most successful and dynamic nations of the world. This is our vision, that is our intent, that is our challenge.

To this I commit myself, and I ask of every leader to support me in this. If South Africans can make the essence of a manifesto such as this their own, then the foundations of our new nation will have been firmly laid. With single-minded unity of purpose, we must build our new South African nation around these values and goals. Constructively, we have to mobilize all the energy, skill, and inventiveness of every individual towards building a new South African nation, a nation that will stand proudly in its rightful place among the nations of the world. If South Africans do not truly become a nation, there will be no peace.

[Changes to Afrikaans] The acceptance of these values is only the first step. To adopt this constitutionally we will have to enter into lengthy and thorough negotiations, but before this can happen we will have to reach an agreement on methods of negotiation, negotiation procedures, and structures.

[Changes to English] Discussions on the way forward in this regard have taken place regularly and with increasing frequency among political parties and interest groups. There is growing consensus that the time has arrived for a multiparty conference. The government is playing a key role in promoting this idea. So have others.

At the end of a fully representative meeting of leaders of first- and second-tier governments which was attended by the chairman of the three ministers councils, chief ministers of the self-governing territories, and provincial administrators, a joint statement was issued on the 30 November last year. I quote from it: The meeting strongly supported the view that a multiparty conference must be convened urgently in order to set in motion a process through which consensus on a future negotiation forum could be reached. The meeting committed itself to support the steps the state president may take in this regard. Such a multiparty conference should include as many political parties as possible, unquote.

Against this background the government was pleased to take note of the anniversary message of the ANC on the 8 January this year in which the principle of a multiparty conference, as a first step that could lead to the adoption of a new constitution, was also accepted. The result is that

most of the major political groupings are now ready to attend multiparty exploratory talks. I trust that these talks will begin soon. I am also convinced that this approach is the best way to ensure that the process as well as the outcome will be legitimate, durable, and acceptable to the majority of South Africans.

[Changes to Afrikaans] The government is of the opinion that negotiations for a new constitution are the responsibility of the representatives of all political parties who enjoy support and those who support a peaceful and negotiable solution. With reference to constitutional development, I want to state the government's stand on the idea of an interim government. The idea that the present, legitimate government should distance itself from its responsibilities and should hand these responsibilities over to an interim government cannot be considered by a sovereign, independent state. Effective government and management in terms of existing constitutional legislation should be continued until a new constitution is negotiated and after a mandate is obtained. However, consideration can be given to certain transitional measures concerning the various constitutional and executive levels, in order to give leaders of negotiating parties an opportunity to be heard.

Other interim measures can also be introduced. Local management is an example of this. For a long time now the government has been giving attention to reforms at the local government level. The options for possible models, as indicated in the report of the Coordinating Council for Local Government Affairs, have stimulated debate at the local level. In many instances the talks have opened doors for cooperation which could not be implemented due to legal impediments. This leads to frustration, and it has a negative effect on the reform process. The government does not want to exceed the boundaries of the national process of negotiation.

Without, thus, wanting to set a final structure at the local government level, we have decided to introduce temporary measures to accommodate the dynamics that already exist in many communities, and to give legitimate powers to these joint structures. Legislation will be tabled during this session to make it possible for communities to negotiate freely and to introduce joint structures. Opportunities will be created in this legislation for the following: the joint execution of duties and the introduction of a single administration for various participating local government bodies; the possibility of participating local government bodies making decisions at joint meetings that are binding on all the participants; and permission for various local government bodies who agree on such an arrangement to switch to the introduction of a single body or bodies under which the responsibilities of these various participating governments will be exercised partially or fully.

The government is currently also giving attention to financial implications of this, because progress in the development of structures for cooperation should not be impeded by financial limitations. In fact, substantial progress has already been made with the planning of a new system of

local government that will give recognition to the concept of one municipality, one tax base. Therefore, the strategy of radicals to destroy existing structures at the local level must end. This senseless and futile disruption serves no purpose and merely causes pain and suffering, particularly in black communities. Moreover, it is a serious obstacle in the way of reform and negotiations at every level. It is toward the latter in particular that those who are fighting about something which will disappear in any event should rather direct their efforts.

Apart from local government, the government is also currently looking at—and with a view to interim arrangements—at the problems resulting from the fragmentation of administration, especially in respect to education, housing, health, and agriculture. In this context there is a serious need for fundamental rationalization linked to the effective protection of standards and the rights of individuals and communities. Before further progress is possible in this regard, wide consultations will have to take place, and I urge all who have an interest in this to cooperate in this process of deliberation. Overly hasty action is not indicated in this regard.

[Changes to English] The elimination of racial discrimination goes hand in hand with the constitutional process. The government has expressed its intention repeatedly to remove discriminatory laws and practices. Many of them have been abolished already. Those remaining could not be repealed out of hand because their complex nature required in-depth investigation. These investigations have now been completed to the extent that I am able to make certain announcements today. Legislation is to be tabled shortly for the repeal of the Land Acts of 1913 and 1936. [positive and negative interjections from the floor]

[Speaker of Parliament, in Afrikaans] Order, order, order, Honorable Member for Hercules.

[De Klerk, in English] Legislation is to be tabled shortly for the repeal of the Land Acts of 1913 and 1936, the Group Areas Act of 1966 and the Development of Black Communities Act of 1984, as well as all other stipulations that determine rights concerning land according to membership of population groups. [mixed interjections from the floor]

[Changes to Afrikaans] The government will also table a white paper in which it will fully state its approach to the future treatment of land and land questions. Both the white paper and the relevant legislation will be at the disposal of members shortly. No one dares...

[Speaker, interrupting, in Afrikaans] Order, order, order! Who made that statement? That honorable member must immediately withdraw that statement and apologize. If you do not apologize then you will have to leave the room. [mixed interjections from the floor] Order, order, order! Who made that statement? That member withdraws that remark or leaves. Order! If any more members want to leave, do it now. [mixed interjections from the floor]

[De Klerk, in Afrikaans] Mr. Speaker, we are now experiencing a demonstration of an unacceptable type of protest

by people who are enjoying the full status of democratic rights. [mixed interjections from the floor] The state and its people will deal with them in a democratic manner.

[Speaker, in Afrikaans] Order! The honorable members ought to know how to behave better.

[De Klerk, in Afrikaans] Mr. Speaker. With regard to property, no one dares to underestimate emotions and even the potential conflict relating to land rights. Everybody has a natural need for access to land... [interruption by interjections from the floor]

[Speaker, in Afrikaans] Order, order! All honorable members must now give the state president an opportunity to deliver his presidential address in peace. [interjections from the floor] Order, order! Honorable member, please take your seat or leave the chamber. Order, order; leave the Chamber immediately! I am not prepared to accept this disorder. We will discuss this matter next week during our debate. The state president will now deliver his presidential address, and any member who interrupts him will have to leave the chamber. Honorable member for Kuruman, take your seat or leave the chamber. Order!

[De Klerk, in Afrikaans] Mr. Speaker, every person... [interruption by mixed interjections from the floor]

[Speaker, in Afrikaans] It does not matter what point of order it is, I am not accepting anything now. The state president will now deliver his presidential address.

[De Klerk] Mr. Speaker, every person has a need for land and its use, as a place to live and a source of his livelihood. For that reason much more than the mere repeal of discriminatory legislation will be needed. Provision will simultaneously have to be made for the protection of rights and access to the ownership of land. On the one hand, there is a need for the protection of ownership of private property and title to that land while taking into account communal rights... [interjections from the floor]

[Speaker] Order! Will the honorable MP please leave this House immediately! Order! Order! Any honorable member who misuses his privilege and shouts out remarks will be disciplined!

[De Klerk] Sir, I said that, on the one hand, there is a need for the protection of ownership of private property and title to that property, taking into account communal rights. On the other hand, ownership of property and its financing has to be accessible to all. This protection of rights, as well as the accessibility of land and finance will be included in the proposed White Paper.

[Changes to English] The Population Registration Act of 1950 has been subjected to scrutiny as well. On the part of the government, the view was held that the Population Registration Act would have to be repealed eventually, but that this could not be done immediately because the act was technically necessary for the maintenance of the present constitutional dispensation. Therefore it would be possible to repeal the act only once a new constitution had been implemented.

Following investigation, it would in fact appear possible to repeal this act, provided that this is accompanied by the adoption of temporary transitional measures towards the acceptance of a new constitution. Consequently, I announce that legislation to this effect will be tabled during this session of Parliament. Should Parliament adopt the government's proposals, the South African Statute Book will be devoid, within months, of the remnants of the racially discriminatory legislation which had become known at the corner stones of apartheid.

[Changes to Afrikaans] The end of apartheid and the repeal of these remaining discriminatory laws will bring us to the end of an era, an era in which an attempt was made to government the diversity of peoples and communities within the same country along the lines of discriminatory coercion. The removal of discrimination and coercion which is now being completed does not, however, change the reality of the existence of a diversity of peoples and communities. Nor is it unique to South Africa. All over the world there are distinct communities within states and countries who have and maintain a particular identity. Individuals who feel they are part of particular communities and find contentment there are allowed, all over the world, to do so. Even in South Africa some communities have a deep-rooted desire for a system in which certain needs are satisfied within community, without coercion, without discrimination, and without apartheid.

The government is convinced that in any new dispensation, recognition must be given to this reality. Therefore it remains committed to the guarantee of community rights for those who desire it, and believes allowance must be made for this in the new South Africa. The government's view is that people cannot be forced into communities; that government cannot discriminate in favor of certain communities and against others; that an own community life must be followed through inherent desire and not through statutory coercion.

The recognition of communities must rest on freedom of association, as is accepted constitutionally and otherwise in various countries of the world. Against that background urgent attention will have to be given to how community rights can come into their own in the new South Africa. Important political players, both inside and outside Parliament, favor this principle, and work is being done on proposals in this regard.

The concept of an own community life is also logically linked to the concept of a bill of human rights. As is already known, the government favors such a bill, and is awaiting the final report of the South African Judicial Commission. In the widest context the government wishes to relate the goal it has in mind for an own community life to the concept of a system of law which does not prescribe or force a community life upon anyone, but which creates legal principles, legal measures and courts in order to make it possible for people to feel secure in their chosen communities.

Our legal system must be subjected to continual review to ensure that it complies with the constantly changing

requirements of our society. In this respect both the innate and common law remain important. The maintenance of the independence of our courts is essential for a stable and secure future. Our legal system and our judiciary enjoys international esteem and respect.

As we stand on the eve of constitutional development in which the law will play a decisive role, the government will continue to ensure that the status of the law is expanded and further strengthened. This applies to all aspects of the law, but in particular to the judges and magistrates. The chief justice, the judge president, and the minister of justice are continually working on this. Special attention is also being given to the status of officials such as the attorneys general and magistrates.

Against the background of the worldwide tendency to simplify legal procedures, to make the legal process more accessible and to allow the community greater involvement, various initiatives are necessary at this stage. We are planning to expand and develop the basis of the present system of court assessors. The aim is to develop this system, as it is presently being used in the Supreme Court, by introducing it in local courts. We will not only make use of lawyers or other legal professionals as assessors, but we will also involve ordinary members of the public being served by the relevant courts. Increased status and importance will be placed on the position of justice of the peace, or the development of a similar position, to give them a role in the judgment of less serious crimes. Local communities will be more intimately involved in this way to ensure speedy settling of disputes. We are also planning to simplify civil procedures, and to make it more cost-effective by introducing intermediary courts for certain civil cases. A law designed to facilitate this purpose has been tabled today in Parliament.

In many other areas, the government is also busy with reforms, renewal and progress aimed at a stable and new dispensation. I want to deal with individual items in this regard. Firstly, education. An important aspect of our society is education. It is known that the government is fully aware and is deeply concerned about serious problems in education. Problems such as insufficient career-oriented emphasis in our syllabi, fragmented state administration, equal financial subsidies for all pupils, the establishment of alternative financial sources for education, the supply of sufficient facilities, the linkage of formal education and the informal sector, and distance teaching as an alternative form of education receive continuous and urgent attention.

To prepare the individual more effectively for his task, renewal in the educational dispensation is necessary to make it more career oriented and to link it more directly to the economy. Therefore, the government announced an investigation into a comprehensive renewal strategy for education last year. The results are expected soon and we will continue discussing the issue. Education affects everyone's future. If we want to create a future South Africa without discrimination and with equal opportunities, it will have to begin with a unique system of education

governed by equal state support for all. For this we require the constructive cooperation of all who have an interest in education. It is therefore encouraging when leaders and organizations with divergent political programs, begin to raise their voices against the interruptions and chaos that characterized the school year of 1990. I also want to call upon all involved, parents, teachers and the children, to place the interests of children first.

Political and community organizations should encourage the children and teachers to take advantage of education and not allow schools and scholars to be used for political aims. The present education system will change. We are working on that on a political and educational level. While this is being done, education must continue in an orderly manner. We are determined that our eventual education system should enjoy the acceptance and the support of the majority. It should be a system that is affordable and in which effective education is being offered. Further, it should adapt to changing trends and needs of the community.

[Changes to English] I now turn to the economy. One other great imperative facing us in this closing decade of the 20th century is economic restructuring. It is the only way through which we will be able to return to a high growth path and meet the reasonable aspirations of all our people. No economy, least of all that of a developing society, can do this overnight. But we can and must promote the creation of employment opportunities and the generation of income to meet the basic needs of our rapidly growing population in the shortest possible space of time. Economic growth and constitutional reform have to be mutually reinforcing. Unless the pressing problems of poverty and unemployment are alleviated, constitutional models will be of little avail to us. There is room for debate on economic structures, but not on the necessity of effective, macroeconomic management. Throughout the world a stable, noninflationary environment has been rediscovered as a key element of sustained economic growth. Therefore, our own fight against inflation has to enjoy top priority as well as united and ongoing support. Failure on this front will leave us with scant hope of success on any other. Inflation does not alleviate poverty, it aggravates it.

The government has neither the capability nor the desire to intervene directly in the price and wage determination process of the private sector. However, unjustifiable wage increases, especially in terms of economic downturn, do not serve the overall public interest. They may well result in lost jobs and fan inflation. The same applies to excessive and routinely instituted price increases that fuel the wage-price spiral.

Fortunately, the past year has seen several economic gains. Our program of economic restructuring, in line with the political and socioeconomic exigencies, is firmly on course. Progress has also been made in short-term stabilization, especially concerning monetary policy. The current account of the balance of payments has been performing well, and the real effective exchange rate of the rand has been comparatively stable.

Of special importance has been our new access, in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, to markets long closed to our exports, as well as our readmission to capital markets in Western Europe. These and other opportunities resulting from the positive international reaction to the government's initiatives have to be grasped firmly and decisively.

We shall continue to sustain and enhance the competitive ability of our exporters. Surplus capacity in areas such as electricity generation and transport is being exploited through favorable power and freight charges to our manufacturers. Increased beneficiation of our abundant raw materials will continue to be encouraged. We simply cannot forego the much needed employment opportunities this will bring about.

All concerned South Africans working for a peaceful transition to a new society wish to see the reduction and ultimate elimination of disparities that still exist. Restructuring the economy and allocating resources to specific needs are essential to this end. Equally important, however, are the channels for deploying the resources, the involvement of the people concerned, and their acceptance of mutual responsibility.

All of our citizens have to join both in shaping and in sharing the national product. I believe the vast majority of South Africans prefer opportunities for the self-advancement of all to largesse and patronage for some. To achieve even the goal of parity in social expenditure would require hard work and stern discipline over the next decade and beyond. Attempts to shorten this inevitably incremental process by militant action in the labor and other fields will merely serve to lengthen it.

By contrast, some form of social accord on economic goals and actions would be a powerful instrument for achieving the shared national goal of a common society offering wider material prospects and a higher quality of life to all its members. However, such an accord has to realize and recognize these realities, and provide a time span and a structure for orderly economic and social development.

I have been greatly encouraged by the progress made in the field of economic development by the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the South African Housing Trust, the Small Business Development Corporation, and other agencies. Similarly, the Independent Development Trust and the newly announced private sector initiative operating under the aegis of The Urban Foundation are set to make major contributions towards addressing endemic problems in housing, health, and education.

The recently announced allocation by the Independent Development Trust of substantial resources directed at giving poor people access to land ownership is of great significance. For its part, the government is currently taking an urgent look at innovative methods of financing the provision of land and housing.

I should also like to mention the committee of deputy ministers which, in close liaison with the private sector, is investigating imaginative ways of raising substantial capital funds for further development projects.

The government places a high premium on job- and income-creating growth. In broad terms this requires, first, that maximum private sector development be encouraged. Second, that the state's economic involvement be reduced in consequence to a minimum, with its residual activities based increasingly on business principles. Third, that government policy and actions be geared to the fullest utilization of natural resources. This includes a shift from import replacement and strategic self-sufficiency to an export-oriented strategy, involving limited protection of domestic industry and aimed at maximum productivity and cost-effectiveness.

Development agencies have an important role to play in adding impetus to job creation. While celebrating its 50th anniversary, the industrial development cooperation is to be restructured so as to promote the optimal industrial development of South Africa.

[Changes to Afrikaans] The agricultural sector is primarily responsible for feeding the nation—an important strategic consideration. It also provides both a direct and indirect base for employment and for small and informal businesses, and is an important contributor to the domestic product and our foreign exchange earnings. During the past year, agriculture has had to grapple with several problems. But, be assured of a helping hand from the government where appropriate. However, assistance for its own sake will not be considered. Assistance has to be targeted as a bridging measure to those whose viability is not in doubt in order to fulfill the essential mission of this sector of our economy. The quest for greater economic growth demands that the remaining inhibiting legislation, and administrative regulation or structures, be vigorously scrutinized. Good progress has been made here, too. Deregulation, however, does not mean no regulation at all. The consumers' interests have also carried considerable weight with the government. The creation of the Business Practices Committee in 1988, the proposed general codes for specific business sectors now being finalized, and the role of the Mediation Council, represent some of the evidence of the government's ongoing commitment to consumer protection and to the proper functioning of markets. Given the expected slowdown in the world economy, quite apart from the Gulf crisis, the economic outlook for South Africa in 1991 is one of consolidation of the progress already made and a continuation of the restructuring process. I wish to urge all South Africans, particularly those involved in the creation of wealth, to join hands with the government in this great and urgent effort to provide job opportunities and income.

On the international scene, far-reaching changes have taken place during the past year. The world arena was dominated by events in central and Eastern Europe; the Soviet Union; the process toward European unity, including German unification; and, recently, the conflict in the Gulf region. These turbulent events, which have coincided with rapid and fundamental changes in our own country, will have a significant impact on the future of world politics.

With communism a discredited and defunct ideology, and the cold war virtually a relic of the past, we have witnessed the removal of major obstacles in the way of achieving values and objectives which will benefit mankind as a whole. Obviously, much remains to be done.

The Gulf war is particularly regrettable at this time. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait—an independent Muslim state which has long been a recognized member of the United Nations and of the Arab community of states—was an act of aggression which cannot be condoned. South Africa's position in this regard is based on accepted principles of international law and is in line with the position adopted by the vast majority of states, including Islamic states. Having said that, let me add that it is our honest hope and prayer that this conflict will soon be brought to an end, with a minimum loss of life, injury, and destruction.

In addition to the Gulf war, the Palestinian issue, unpredictabilities occasioned by the unfolding situation in the Soviet Union, and the specters of AIDS and poverty looming ominously over Africa should all serve as warnings that world crises and flashpoints have not been completely eliminated. Nonetheless, the important reality is that a new beginning has been made out of the vortex of world events, that a climate was created before the Gulf war erupted in which greater freedom, greater security, and greater peace could prevail than at any other time this century.

There is so much at stake for mankind that the world dare not allow the crises now confronting it to recreate the attitudes of hostility, rivalry, and suspicion which characterized international relations in all the years since the World War II.

Mr. Speaker, it is remarkable how the conversions of South African and international events have brought about greater harmony between us and the rest of the world. The fundamental change of course we embarked upon a year ago was motivated primarily by our national interests. Yet, the progress we have made since then has created an entirely new situation for South African internationally. I am happy to be able to say that we have succeeded in breaking out of the dead end of isolation.

The exploitation of regional conflict in our part of the world aimed at furthering ideology and power has come to an end. Political opportunism, diplomatic blackmail, and playing off the two major powers against each other for the achievement of questionable political objectives can no longer be used effectively against us.

Revolution is no longer a marketable product in the world. The resources of the destabilization and propaganda campaigns against South Africa are drying up. The anti-South African industry is facing insolvency. Sanctions are withering away.

Mr. Speaker, I have high hopes that we shall further improve our situation internationally in the year ahead. We shall be opening several new missions in central Europe and Africa. Our contact with the rest of Africa is growing. Reciprocal visits by delegations are a frequent

occurrence, and we see this continuing in the future. We are also looking to the east as an area of greater opportunities. I will be undertaking further visits abroad during the course of the year. All of this means that we are now able to look forward with greater confidence toward resuming our rightful position in the wider community of nations and restoring the many ties which were severed over the years.

South Africa is also interested in how current world events will affect our region. At a time when there is talk of a looming marginalization of the African continent, Africa has to take stock. If Africa remains poor, underdeveloped, unstable, and undemocratic, then it will isolate itself and move into inevitable obscurity. Therefore, Africa's reaction to the new international spirit which favors multi-party democracy and free-market systems is of vital importance. We in Africa must realize that we have to save ourselves. The world will certainly not do it for us.

Regional development is of decisive importance to southern Africa. The 11 states of southern Africa have a combined population of more than 100 million people. The region is endowed with valuable natural resources and has the potential to become one of the most prosperous regions in the world. However, the nations comprising the region, divided for so long by colonialism, wars, conflicts, and racial strife, will have to join forces, work together, and plan together. If we succeed in this, our region should be able to realize the common aim of a better future. If we work together, we will succeed in obtaining active involvement by Europe, the United States, and other developed countries in the developing economies of the southern African region.

Against this positive background, Mr. Speaker, we have the high level of political and criminal lawlessness in the country. It is worrying and unacceptable. It has the potential to cause serious setbacks and could undermine the progress made thus far. Therefore, everything possible is being done to create a more progressive climate. One of the greatest evils is the misuse of mass action, because it occurs too frequently. This morning we experienced an example of this. I maintain that mass action occurs too frequently. In this regard, there is a definite distinction between peaceful mass protest that is part of a normal democratic process and mass action with revolutionary objectives or mass action that leads to crime and civil disobedience or encroaches on the security and rights of others.

There has recently been a tendency to challenge law and order and to exceed the boundaries of normal democratic protest. Political opponents who attack and murder each other ignore all democratic principles and fan flames of hatred that will be difficult to extinguish long after the introduction of a new constitutional dispensation. Protesters who intimidate the public, those who harass individuals, and those who undermine the economy are not engaging in democratic action. Parties who flagrantly break the rules which they assisted in drawing up, as we have witnessed this morning, are not engaging in democratic action, but they are inciting people to revolution and

violence. Mass protest must take place within the law and should be exercised peacefully and responsibly.

If the current tendency to misuse this method continues, then the government will be forced to employ stricter measures to prevent misuse of mass action. It is not only the task of the government to act in this regard. The pressure and demands on our security forces as well as the police and the army are already enormous. Political and community leaders should accept more responsibility in the settling of disputes, the control of supporters and the creation of a suitable climate for negotiation. Our security forces are doing an excellent job overall, and they do not deserve the criticism that they receive from various sections. I want to call on all South Africans to give their full support to our security forces. The authority and integrity of our police should not be undermined. The government will regard it as a priority to do everything possible to make our police service more effective.

As for crime in general, the minister of law and order has already announced that the police have launched a special campaign against crime. The cumulative effect of the increase in the number of policemen and women, the optimal use of manpower and the carrying out of special operations will result in the more effective combating of crime.

The effect of this will be effectively to put an end to the forces of chaos and anarchy. The Defense Force and ARMSCOR [Armaments Corporation of South Africa], together with the police, ensure that South Africa can rely on a strong and ready security base which makes peaceful change possible. We will have to build on that.

The security forces of the new South Africa must be properly managed and manned. It is in this light that continued national service and training must be seen. A professional and well trained defense and police force which is not subject to political pressure is the best guarantee for the maintenance of an environment in which all can live and work in safety. This the government will continue to provide.

[Changes to English] In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary session beginning today will exact high demands from us. The year ahead will be as decisive as 1990. Our ability here in Parliament and in our relations with extraparliamentary organizations to broaden cooperation and rise above petty politics will be of decisive importance.

[Changes to Afrikaans] This is not the time to sit back or turn around. There is only one road, and that is forward. Forward with courage and daring. Forward with consultation and planning. Forward with understanding and level-headedness. Forward with determination and dedication. Forward in faith and certainty in the knowledge that our future is in the hands of Almighty God, provider to people and nations. I pray that He will lead and support us in all our activities and deliberations.

Mr. Speaker, members of Parliament, I now declare this Third Session of the Ninth Parliament of the Republic of South Africa officially opened.

Reaction to De Klerk Address in Parliament

Inkatha Leader Comments

MB0102134691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1323 GMT 1 Feb 91

[SAPA PR Wire Service. Issued by: Office of the President of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Friday, February 1: Press Statement by Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister kwaZulu and president Inkatha Freedom Party]

[Text] Ulundi, 1 February 1991 —My overall impression of the state president's address at the opening of Parliament this morning was that it facilitated progress towards getting negotiations off the ground. The scrapping of the Land Acts and the Group Areas Act, the commitment to examine the Population Registration Act while we negotiate a new constitution, and moves towards establishing a single education system, all amount to a significant move forward.

If there was anybody who thought that there was some doubt about whether the state president would carry through his intentions to normalise South Africa and remove discriminatory legislation, it must now surely be recognised there really can be no turning back now by the South African Government. The government itself is lending its weight to breaking the back of apartheid. The final eradication of it is now certain.

I would like to endorse the state president's rejection of an elected constituent assembly, and I welcome his statement that there will be no constitutional leap into the dark. The negotiating parties must now accept that their role is going to be to negotiate a new constitutional [as received] which will be legislated into existence after it has been tested for acceptability through one or another acceptable means.

I remain disappointed, however, that the state president said nothing about the nature of the negotiating forum, nor did he give any indication about negotiating timetables. It is, I believe, just not enough to announce his support for the all-party conference which the ANC [African National Congress] has called for and which I first called for and which Mr. de Klerk, following me, called for, before the ANC called for such a conference.

I and the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] will, barring unforeseen political circumstances and unforeseen and unexpected changes in the ANC's attitude towards the IFP, I believe, be working participants in the preparation for an all-party conference. This conference, however, will have no statutory status. However important it may turn out to be as a talk-shop, that is what it will be.

Now that the ANC has met with the IFP and the leadership of both organisations have committed themselves to end violence, the maximum that can be expected in this direction will become the minimum that we do. I believe

that the IFP, the ANC and the National Party could together set the negotiating ball rolling and could together work to establish the circumstances in which negotiations can succeed. I call for negotiations and I call for them to commence now.

I have always argued that change must be negotiated and then it must be legislated into existence. I have always argued that the new constitution must be legislated into existence. What Mr F.W. de Klerk is now doing is beginning to look like legislating the circumstances into existence in which constitutional change can take place. This is a positive start.

I believe reform must continue. The scrapping of discriminatory legislation must continue. Movement towards equality must continue and while all this is continuing, and while we continue to dismantle apartheid and throw its pieces away, we can begin negotiating about a new constitution. We all know what the new constitution will not contain and we all are ready to throw away now that which it will not contain, while we negotiate the new constitution.

This course of action would lend the greatest possible legitimacy to negotiations. I thus welcome the first moves now announced by Mr. de Klerk to look at the atrocious divides between white local authorities and other local authorities.

I must, however, voice my concern that this and other developments in similar vein which are bound to follow, should be developments which flow out of a negotiating process and not simply out of a process of consultation between the South African Government and various parties and groups. I do not like this kind of claim to be in the driving seat of change that is inherent in the way Mr. de Klerk is approaching the local authority issue.

If we can find common cause in rationalising the local authority structures of South Africa, let us do so positively, and in an orderly manner in negotiations where things can be properly decided in a democratic manner. Democracy must be more than consultation when it comes to dealing with any structures of government, whether they be first tier, second tier or third tier structures.

Changing local authority structures amounts to very serious political work. We must be quite sure, I believe, that no opportunity should be left unexploited in which we can associate change with the devolution downwards and outwards from the state. Changing local authority structures must be done in association with changing the power base on which the apartheid state has founded its past action.

One last word of criticism which does not detract from my overall assessment of the state president's address to Parliament, is that he was altogether too vague when it came to the critically important question of how best to share views and responsibilities when it comes to running the country during this transitional process. Foreign and domestic affairs must now be pursued with a deep awareness that we are in a transitional period and that the state must now seek the legitimacy of its role as being an

instrument of change by ensuring that every race group has a say in what South Africa does and what South Africa commits itself to do.

I ask whether the state president should not perhaps have announced a statutory body which would have some teeth and which could co-exist with the present government as the de jure and de facto government of the day. Again, this should be a negotiation item but Mr. de Klerk has not even announced negotiations and is proceeding as though there is much more that he can do than in fact the physical circumstances of South Africa should allow him to do.

CP, DP, British, Others React

*MB0102153491 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1500 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Excerpts] Overwhelmingly favorable reaction has been received to the announcement in Parliament today by the state president, Mr. F. W. de Klerk, that legislation that has until now been regarded as the cornerstone of apartheid will be repealed during the present parliamentary session. [passage omitted]

There was drama during the opening of Parliament when all the members of the Conservative Party [CP] walked out during President De Klerk's address.

CP leader Dr. Andries Treurnicht said in a statement that his party had walked out of Parliament to illustrate to President De Klerk and his government how seriously it regarded the repeal of the acts.

Dr. Treurnicht said the repeal of the legislation and the announcement on multiracial local authorities touched the roots of separate community life, the self-determination of nations, and the right of whites to their own government and territory. He said this would herald another era of friction and conflict.

Dr. Treurnicht said it was astonishing that South Africa had the only leader in the Western world who was negotiating himself, his party, and his people out of political power. [passage omitted]

The leader of the Democratic Party, Dr. Zach de Beer, says he supports the state president's opening speech. He said, however, that there were still serious problems like education and the economy which demanded serious attention.

The leader of the Labor Party [LP], Rev. Allan Hendrickse, has welcomed the announcement. He said it justified the 25-year existence of the LP. Mr. Hendrickse condemned the walk-out by CP members, saying it was an insult to the state president and to Parliament. [passage omitted]

The chief minister of Lebowa, Mr. Nelson Ramodike, said the abolition of discriminatory legislation was welcome, but that all expectations had not been met yet. He said the black communities looked forward, in particular, to acquiring more land and to the repeal of the Group Areas Act, and expressed the hope that these measures would become reality within the year.

The chief minister of KaNgwane, Mr. Enos Mabuza, has also welcomed the scrapping of remaining apartheid legislation. Mr. Mabuza said he had noted with regret the walk-out by CP members during the state president's address. He said he supported the holding of a multiparty congress, because it would accelerate the negotiation process.

The British foreign secretary, Mr. Douglas Hurd, has welcomed the South African Government's decision to repeal the Group Areas Act, the Land Act, and the Population Registration Act.

Mr. Hurd said the British Government strongly supported the further impetus given to the reform process in South Africa by this decision. He said it was clear that these changes were irreversible. The British Government looked forward to the convening of a multiparty conference to discuss the way ahead in negotiations and the principles of a new constitution.

More Reaction to Speech

*MB0102165691 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Excerpts] Overwhelmingly favorable reaction has been received to the announcement in Parliament today by the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, that legislation that has until now been regarded as the cornerstone of apartheid will be repealed during the present parliamentary session. The two major parties in the House of Delegates, Dr. J. N. Reddy of Solidarity and Mr. Amichand Rajbansi of the National People's Party have welcomed the government's decision.

Dr. Reddy described Mr. De Klerk's speech as a milestone in the history of South Africa and in the reform process initiated last year. He said it behooves those political formations outside Parliament to take up the challenge of addressing the issues necessary for a new constitution.

Mr. Rajbansi said Mr. De Klerk's speech further underlined that the state president's political program for a new, nonracial South Africa was on course. [passage omitted]

The South African Agricultural Union [SAAU] says it has noted President De Klerk's announcement on the repeal of the Land Acts. A spokesman for the union, Dr. Piet Swart, said that the union had a definite stand, from an agricultural point of view, on issues such as the artificial redistribution of land and nationalization.

He said the SAAU would wait to study the white paper on this, and would then deal with the issue in the interests of agriculture.

CP Spokesman Predicts Opposition

*MB0102170491 London BBC World Service
in English 1615 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The walkout by members of the rightwing opposition Conservative Party [CP] was unprecedented during a

president's opening speech. On the line, Timothy Ecott asked the Conservative Party's spokesman, Koos van der Merwe, what made him so angry about measures which were, after all, expected.

[Begin recording] [Van der Merwe] You see, what Mr. De Klerk has done is something that is [word indistinct] in the white electorate at the last general elections. A mere 18 months ago we fought a general election at which time he faithfully [word indistinct] on the statute book. He also said that in the event of him bringing in any drastic change he would first consult the white electorate with a referendum. Now, he has drastically broken his word and this is why he was continuously called a traitor this morning, and he can now expect fierce opposition from the white people in this country.

[Ecott] What form will that opposition take?

[Van der Merwe] That opposition could for instance take the same form as the farmers have done in the last few days. Sixteen thousand farming vehicles were brought into Pretoria to disrupt events there to show their grievances against the government. We could go beyond that. You must remember that our party controls 70 percent of the municipalities of the Transvaal, and in the Transvaal you have 54 percent of the white people of South Africa. We can use those municipalities to really put pressure on the government and to put obstacles in his way to govern the country effectively. There are a number of other options we can do that I don't want to disclose at this stage, but we are moving into a new phase.

We are demanding from this government to give to the Afrikaner people the [word indistinct] themselves. We don't want Mandela to govern us or your prime minister, Mr. Major, or anybody else. We want to govern ourselves in the same manner as the British people govern themselves.

[Ecott] Will your call for disobedience include an appeal to the members of the security forces, who, you believe, support you?

[Van der Merwe] No, definitely not. We do not expect people in the Police or in the Defense Force to act illegally.

[Ecott] What exactly, though, will you ask your supporters to do in the near future to go against the state president's wishes?

[Van der Merwe] We will ask them to use every possible opportunity to put obstructions in the way of the government. We will ask them to make it as difficult as possible in any sphere of life for the government, and we hope to enforce by-elections on a large scale, and we hope to eventually, if necessary, to arrange big strikes and stay-aways, and paralyze the government with a view that the government accedes to our very, very just and equitable demand of self-determination for the white people. This is the central issue. We demand self-determination. We want [word indistinct].

Further Reportage on Renewed Fighting in Umgababa

ANC, Inkatha's Buthelezi React

MB3101163491 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in Afrikaans 1545 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] At least seven people have died in renewed fighting in Natal. The incident, which took place at Umgababa on the Natal south coast, follows shortly after the historic meeting earlier this week between Inkatha Freedom Party leader Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi and African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela. [passage omitted]

ANC spokesperson Ms. Gill Marcus has said in Johannesburg that the reports of the violence between ANC and Inkatha supporters at Umgababa will be investigated by the organization. She said the ANC can only act once the matter has been investigated and confirmation is received of the fighting.

In his reaction, Inkatha's Dr. Buthelezi said he is disturbed over the violence.

[Begin Buthelezi video recording in English] I'm rather very sad, especially a day after we had a very successful meeting with the deputy president of the ANC, Dr. Mandela, and members of the national executive of the ANC, where everyone's hopes had been raised because of the manner in which the meeting was conducted, and the accords that were made between us. So I'm very concerned about it, because I think that it compounds our problems. [end recording]

More on Fighting

MB3101194891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1942 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Durban Jan 31 SAPA—Renewed fighting "seems to have broken out again" in the trouble-stricken Danyanga Reserve at Umgababa on the Natal south coast, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Thursday night.

An SABC reporter on the scene said women and children carrying possessions in large packs "were streaming in to the Illovo police station and Ultra City (a filling station complex) near Umgababa this (Thursday) evening".

Police however said there had been no reports of fighting in the area since the bodies of eight people were found in the area after clashes between alleged members of the Inkatha Freedom Party and the ANC [African National Congress] earlier in the week.

Most Residents Had Fled Earlier

MB3101211091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2104 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Durban Jan 31 SAPA—Most residents of Umgababa, on the Natal south coast, where an attack by alleged Inkatha supporters took place on Wednesday night, had fled their homes several hours earlier.

Several residents told SABC's [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news on Thursday that they had found written warnings of the attack on their windows, and that by the time the group of about 200 men had arrived at the Danganya settlement, there were relatively few people in the houses.

No shots were fired during the attack and the seven bodies recovered by police had been either stabbed or hacked to death.

Police believe the attack was in revenge for an incident earlier in the day, when Inkatha supporters were fired upon while attempting—for the first time in several months—to use the Umgababa railway station.

More Inkatha, ANC Reaction

*MB0102155891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1307 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Durban Feb 1 SAPA—In spite of the violence in Umgababa on the Natal south coast, which has left at least 10 people dead, it would be "quite incorrect" to say the fighting indicated that Tuesday's peace talks between the two organisations had failed.

Reacting to Wednesday night's incident, ANC [African National Congress] Southern Natal Convenor and National Head of Intelligence, Mr Jacob Zuma, and Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] National Chairman Dr. Frank Mdlalose said they had agreed to adopt a joint approach to the incident.

In the spirit of the agreement reached at Tuesday's peace talks, they said, neither side would blame the other and a joint ANC/IFP team had been appointed to investigate all the facts.

This team will subsequently report back to Mr. Zuma and Dr. Mdlalose and they will then take some action.

Both men said it would be "quite incorrect" to say that the fighting indicated the peace talks had failed, as many people at grassroots level had not even heard of the peace agreement yet. Also, they both emphasised that the talks should not be viewed in the light of a "miracle cure".

"It will take time, but we will work together on dealing with the problem. We are determined to stop the violence," Dr. Mdlalose said.

ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela, speaking from Windhoek, said there were "agents provocateurs" among the people as well as "enemies of peace" prepared to snuff out any attempts to stop the violence.

"We must expect a lot of resistance from these groups," he said. "And it does not follow that the violence that occurred was sparked off by members of Inkatha or the ANC."

Landmine Wounds Six; ANC Denies Responsibility

*MB0102133891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1149 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Pietersburg Feb 1 SAPA—Six soldiers were wounded, two seriously, when their military vehicle detonated a landmine near the northern Transvaal town of Messina on Friday morning, police said.

The African National Congress [ANC], which suspended its guerrilla campaign to bolster negotiations with Pretoria, said it was not responsible.

A [South African] Defence Force [SADF] spokesman in Pietersburg told SAPA the landmine was detonated at 9.15am at Twilight Farm, 25km northeast of Messina along the Limpopo River.

Police spokesman Lt. W.F. Voight said the mine was detonated by the army logistics vehicle—the Samel 50.

He said nothing was found on the scene and police and armed units were combing the area.

Mr. Chris Hani, chief of staff of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation (MK)—ANC military wing], told reporters in the town the ANC was not responsible. He had earlier led a protest march to the divisional offices of the security police.

"It is inconceivable that the ANC could do such a thing on a day like this when our people are marching," he said, standing at the steps of the security police building.

"It is definitely not from the ANC and I would make a guess and actually point a finger at the rightwing because they have been against the concept of black people being accommodated in the present constitution," he said.

Lt. Voight said the seriously injured soldiers were First Corporal Johan du Plooy, and Under Corporal S. Defelice.

The others were Corporals D. James and J. Steyn and Privates C. Botha and P. Lourens.

SAPA Reports CSFR Lifts Trade Embargo

*MB0102052991 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2307 GMT 31 Jan 91*

[Text] Pretoria Jan 31 SAPA—Czechoslovakia has lifted its trade embargo against South Africa, reports SABC's [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news.

This was confirmed by representatives of the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry at a media function held in Pretoria on Thursday [31 January] night.

The embargo on the import and export of arms is, however, being maintained in accordance with United Nations regulations.

Earlier this month, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Northern Transvaal Chamber of Industry in Prague in which it was stipulated that bilateral economic relations will be strengthened.

The parties also undertook to hold trade shows in their respective countries in order to increase trade, investment, technical cooperation and any other economic activity.

The Czechoslovakian delegation will hold talks with the Small Business Development Corporation, the National Productivity Institute, the Development Bank of Southern Africa as well as several major manufacturing concerns during their visit to this country.

They are guests of the Northern Transvaal Chamber of Industries.

Joint Verification Commission on Angola Meets

Envoy on Interference in Peace

MB3001200691 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura has been received an audience in Cape Town with President Frederick de Klerk, to whom he expressed the Angolan Government's regret over the continued South African support to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. Venancio de Moura, who said the Angolan Government has concrete proof of South African destabilization under the guise of humanitarian aid, expressed to President de Klerk his concern not only about these issues, but also over Pretoria's attitude in interfering negatively in the direct talks between the government and UNITA.

Delegates Issue 'Communique'

MB3001202091 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The joint commission for the verification of the New York accords has met in Cape Town, South Africa. No official communique was issued at the end of the proceedings. Our special correspondent Alberto de Sousa reports:

[De Sousa] The 10th ordinary session of the joint commission established by the Brazzaville protocol was held in Cape Town yesterday. The meeting was attended by all members of the joint commission, namely Angola, Cuba, Namibia, and South Africa. U.S. and USSR delegations attended the meeting as observers.

The proceedings were held in a constructive atmosphere and all delegations expressed their satisfaction about the positive contribution given by the joint commission to regional peace and cooperation.

The Cuban delegation informed the commission about the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola in line with the New York accords of 22 December 1988. The commission expressed its satisfaction and praised Cuba and Angola for adhering to the timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

Moreover, Cuba informed the commission about the unwarranted attacks carried against its troops by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]

armed gangs. All delegations condemned such attacks, and expressed their condolences to the Cuban delegation for the lives that have been lost.

The commission assessed the situation in southwestern Africa, particularly the security situation in the People's Republic of Angola. All delegations expressed interest in assessing the future of the joint commission and agreed to exchange viewpoints before the next meeting.

This is the text of the communique issued at the end of the 10th ordinary meeting of the joint commission established by the Brazzaville protocol, held in Cape Town, South Africa, on 29 January. [sentence as heard]

Military Warns Civil Servants Against Protest

MB0102153291 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0400 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Ciskei's military leader, Brigadier Oupa Gqozo, has issued an order forbidding civil servants from taking part in today's planned stayaways and marches. The order was described by political organizations, trade unions and civil servants as selfish and confrontational.

ANC, PAC Cape Town Protest March Begins

MB0102082591 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0756 GMT 1 Feb 91

[By Adrienne Carlisle]

[Text] Cape Town Feb 1 SAPA—Leaders of the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] and the African National Congress [ANC] marched together for the first time in Cape Town on Friday [1 February] to demand a constituent assembly.

ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu and western Cape convener for the PAC Barney Desai waited patiently together on the Cape Town Grand Parade before the march on Parliament began.

The ANC and PAC flags fluttered side by side in the breeze but whereas the ANC was demanding a constituent assembly and an interim government the PAC flag specified that it demanded a constituent assembly but no interim government.

Also present at the march were Mr Jan van Eck, DP [Democratic Party] spokesman on law and order and MP for Claremont, Mr Clarence Mkhwetu and Dr Allan Boesak.

Small groups of policemen were stationed on corners along the route the marchers were due to take.

More on March

MB0102084091 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0818 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Cape Town Feb 1 SAPA—The PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress]/ANC [African National Congress] organised

march started from Cape Town's Grand Parade 18 minutes late when ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu led the crowd of about 10,000 people up Darling Street towards the city centre.

Mr Christmas Tinto, western Cape ANC president, welcomed the marchers and especially the PAC who were represented by members of its executive in their "journey to freedom together".

Other dignitaries in the first three groups included Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Mr Clarence Mkwethu, ANC NEC [National Executive Committee] member Reggie September, trade unionist Ray Alexander and her husband Jack Simons, PAC Information Secretary Barney Desai, ANC Information Director Dr Pallo Jordan, Shaykh Nazeem Mohamed of the Muslim Judicial Council, the Rev Allan Boesak and Democratic Party members Jannie Momberg and Jan van Eck.

The procession was led by two tan-coloured Japanese cars with a single motorcycle in between followed by the dignitaries and early marchers displaying a host of banners.

A police helicopter hovered above the Parade shortly before the march and policemen stood at street corners along the route.

The banners claimed that the people had to march forward together towards a constituent assembly while the others said the racist parliament should be disbanded and that the marchers wanted freedom and peace immediately.

The SA [South African] Communist Party [SACP] also had a strong presence and numerous SACP banners were displayed.

As the march got to Strand Street the crowd filled both sides of the divided thoroughfare with ANC marshalls lining the route to be taken.

As they marched the protesters shouted slogans demanding a constituent assembly as a police helicopter flew overhead.

The march, which filled the left lane of Strand Street, ran for more than the length of six city blocks.

Constituent Assembly Called For

*MB0102104991 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1021 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[By Lew Elias]

[Text] Cape Town Feb 1 SAPA—African National Congress internal leader Mr Walter Sisulu on Friday [1 February] made an impassioned appeal for peace and an end to violence, along with a demand for the installation of an interim government or constituent assembly.

Addressing between 6,000 and 8,000 people gathered in the heat on Cape Town's unshaded Grand Parade, he said

it was no good to scrap only apartheid laws from the Constitution, but "that which is keeping apartheid in place must be scrapped as well".

"Not only must such laws as the Group Areas and Population Registration Acts go, but there must be measures to retrieve the damage they have done."

Speaking on the refusal of some areas to give permission for the protest marches nationally calling for a constituent assembly on Friday, Mr Sisulu said mass action was a democratic right now and in the future.

"We don't have the vote. This is what our people want today."

Mr Sisulu demanded an interim government, saying the protesters had come to bury the past and make a new country.

He said a constitution reflecting the will of all people, black and white, had to be drawn up to reflect "the kind of society we want". He also called for a common voter's roll.

Friday's march in Cape Town was the first open collaboration between the ANC and Pan Africanist Congress [Pan-Africanist Congress]. Mr Sisulu said the two organisations had come together to strive for the common goal of a constituent assembly.

He made an impassioned plea for an end to violence throughout the country, saying skirmishes recently reported from Natal should not be seen as an impediment towards this goal.

Appeals to end the conflict following Tuesday's historic meeting in Durban between ANC Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela and Inkatha Freedom Party head Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi still had to filter down to grassroots level.

Mr Sisulu said a "horrific" campaign of violence had been unleashed, and there was no doubt it was a deliberate act of destabilisation.

Curtailment of violence was one of the ANC's highest priorities.

Mr Sisulu was one of the last of various liberation organisation leaders to address the crowd from the balcony of Cape Town's city hall.

He said the ANC had received a copy of President F.W. de Klerk's opening of Parliament speech and would comment on it on Saturday after it had been studied.

The crowd dispersed peacefully after Mr Sisulu's speech, with only a handful of incidents coming to the attention of ANC marshalls who controlled the crowd while police looked on.

Open Letter Presented to De Klerk

*MB0102133391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1144 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[By Adrienne Carlisle]

[Text] Cape Town Feb 1 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] Western Cape convenor Mr. Christmas Tinto, who along with other ANC and PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] dignitaries led a 20,000 strong crowd on a march on Parliament on Friday, handed over an open letter demanding a constituent assembly and an interim government to government officials who received it on behalf of Mr. F.W. de Klerk.

President de Klerk was due to present his opening address to Parliament at 11 AM and could not therefore receive the letter himself.

Rows of policemen stood along Wale Street and Government Avenue in front of the State President's Office where the letter exchanged hands.

The memorandum told Mr. de Klerk that in place of the "apartheid government" he must accept the inevitability of an interim government to oversee the process towards a constituent assembly.

"Shut down Parliament and with it will go years of apartheid misery, injustice and poverty," said the letter.

President de Klerk was said to be a "man of vision" and if this was so he should use his vision to exclude all those wrongs which brought him to power.

"There cannot be democracy without one person, one vote in a unitary South Africa."

The letter called for a constituent assembly to take South Africa through the "gateway" to democracy.

Friday's call was just the start of a mass call for a constituent assembly.

"You cannot pretend to drop apartheid legislation whilst retaining the apartheid organ that which promulgates (and repeals) those laws.

"You have no choice but to abolish your government."

The memo reminded Mr. de Klerk of his obligation under the Groote Schuur and Pretoria Minutes regarding the return of exiles and the release of prisoners saying the April 30 deadline, laid down by the ANC, was not far off and the president's "credit-worthiness" ended on that date.

The memo said the government had failed miserably during the past year to control the violence in the country and claimed the security forces had been implicated in countless instances of instigating the violence.

"You cannot expect us to engage in negotiations about the constitutional future of our country whilst our people are being slaughtered."

The memo called for a country governed by all its people who wanted a share in the nation's wealth, land and employment. It also called for a single education department, housing, security and comfort.

"For us, the long march to democracy continues. Your government stands between us and our destination," the memo concluded.

After handing over the letter Mr. Tinto then rejoined the march which was to proceed to the Grand Parade where ANC internal leader Mr. Walter Sisulu was due to address the marchers.

Strikes, Marches Reported in Eastern Cape Area

MB0102150691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1219 GMT 1 Feb 91

[SAPA carries embargo: "Not for Port Elizabeth papers"]

[Text] Port Elizabeth Feb 1 SAPA—School children made up the bulk of early marchers gathering outside the Great Centenary Hall in New Brighton, Port Elizabeth, on Friday for the constituent assembly day march.

They started proceedings by toyi-toying behind the African National Congress [ANC] flags, banners and placards.

Many factories in the Eastern Cape were silent on Friday as thousands of workers stayed away in support of the constituent assembly day march. Surveys showed the majority of workers responded to the call by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) to observe a stayaway.

School children in uniforms of their various schools reported to their schools before leaving to join the march at the hall.

Some curious spectators lined the streets watching the groups from the various ANC branches marching to the hall.

The regional branch of the Pan-Africanist Congress and Azanian People's Organisation had also called their members to support the march.

By 10am the crowd had grown to thousands of people with some coming from the northern areas arrived by vehicles to join the planned mass march to the new Law Courts where the senior ANC member and SA [South African] Communist Party National Chairman Raymond Mhlaba was scheduled to hand over a petition to the chief magistrate who will be requested to it to the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk.

In the petition the ANC claimed that despite negotiations the government had failed to control the police and the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau], the Askaris [turned former ANC guerrillas] and death squads continue to operate and vigilantes and gangsters were allowed to roam free.

South African Police and security police vehicles were parked along the route to the courts.

Strikes Largely Successful

MB0102144091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1251 GMT 1 Feb 91

[SAPA Carries following embargo: "Not for Port Elizabeth papers"]

[Text] Port Elizabeth Feb 1 SAPA—Over half of the workforce throughout the Eastern Cape joined in the national mass stayaway on Friday.

Schools in the area also reported only half their normal attendances, according to police.

In Port Elizabeth the stayaway by the workforce was 90 percent effective. All children stayed away from school in the city.

The stayaway was equally effective in East London.

Elsewhere in the Eastern Cape, the stayaway was less stringent.

Police said in Uitenhage 70 percent of the workforce stayed away and 60 percent of pupils failed to turn up at school.

In Grahamstown there was a 60 percent stayaway from work and school.

'Wide-Scale' Black Strike Occurs in Pretoria

*MB0102082991 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0759 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Pretoria Feb 1 SAPA—There was a wide-scale stayaway of black employees from their places of employment in Pretoria on Friday [1 February].

The PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] and ANC [African National Congress] are expected to lead a march to the Union Buildings and hand over a memorandum demanding the establishment of a constituent assembly during the day.

There was a very visible police presence in the city, with scores of police vehicles cruising around.

SAPA journalist Johnny Masilela reported that residents from townships around Pretoria had been unable to get to Pretoria "simply because there is no transport available".

In Mabopane, about 30km from Pretoria, Bophuthatswana police were monitoring the situation.

ANC's Nzo Leads March

*MB0102132391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1136 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[By Norman Patterton]

[Text] Pretoria Feb 1 SAPA—ANC Secretary-General Alfred Nzo led a march to the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Friday [1 February] to hand over a petition, demanding the establishment of a constituent assembly and interim government, to the office of the state president.

Journalists estimated the number at 8,000.

Mr Nzo was accompanied by the general secretary of the SA [South African] Communist Party, Mr Joe Slovo, and the vice-president of the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], Mr Dikgang Moseneke.

The petition was accepted by the deputy director-general of Mr de Klerk's office, Mr Hennie Botha.

There was a wide-scale stayaway of black people from their places of employment in the city, and a very visible police presence.

Police Lt Marinda Erasmus said no incidents had been reported to the police.

ANC Feels Strike Successful

*MB0102143691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1256 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 1 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] said on Friday initial reports indicated its stayaway protest action had been successful in Pretoria but had not been so in Johannesburg.

Spokeswoman Gill Marcus told SAPA reports were still filtering in from the regions and the full picture had yet to be determined.

Between 50 and 60 percent of the workers in Johannesburg observed the call, she added.

"We've reports it's been very successful in Pretoria," said Ms Marcus, speaking from her home in Johannesburg.

Eastern Transvaal Towns Report No Strike

*MB0102113791 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1103 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 1 SAPA—A 100 per cent work attendance has been reported in the eastern Transvaal towns of Middelburg and Witbank, home of major power, coal mining and steel industries.

Industry spokesmen believed the protest marches in the townships planned for later on Friday [1 February] would not go ahead as most township residents were at work. Permission for marches was refused in these towns.

Stayaways by drivers and other Lebowa transport employees brought bus services to a halt throughout the far northern Transvaal, while similar action by students and campus workers at the University of the North disrupted the academic programme there.

In the western Transvaal, bus stops in Klerksdorp were empty on Friday morning. A planned march in the town did not take place because the local African National Congress branch could not raise the R[and]100,000 needed for the indemnity policy which the city council had demanded in return for permission to march.

Johannesburg Shacks Demonstration Demolished

*MB0102172491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1426 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[By Thami Mkhwanazi]

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 1 SAPA—Johannesburg municipal security personnel on Friday demolished shacks which were erected in the city centre earlier in the day by

demonstrators who formed part of a nationwide African National Congress [ANC] organised campaign.

A man was arrested as parks and recreation officers of the Johannesburg municipality pulled down all four shacks at the Harry Oppenheimer Park while members of the SA [South African] Police [SAP] stood by.

Capt Eugene Opperman of the SAP Witwatersrand Division confirmed the arrest, saying a man who had hindered the demolishing of the corrugated iron structures would soon appear in court.

The shacks were erected at 8 AM by Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (OMHLE) to highlight the plight of the homeless black communities and in solidarity with the ANC campaign to press for an interim government in South Africa.

Natal Reports 'No Major Stayaway' by Blacks

*MB0102121691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0901 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Durban Feb 1 SAPA—There appeared to have been no major stayaway by black workers in Natal on Friday [1 February], according to a survey of several centres.

Most businesses in Durban reported a full turnout of staff, and in Pietermaritzburg absenteeism was—as one business house put it—"negligible".

But indications were there would be strong support for the ANC [African National Congress] call for marches in many parts of the province, including Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Pinetown and Port Shepstone.

Durban Protest March Peaceful, No Incidents

*MB0102151091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1207 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Durban Feb 1 SAPA—Between 6,000 and 10,000 singing and chanting people marched and toyi-toyed their way through the streets of Durban at lunchtime on Friday in a protest to demand the immediate formation of a constituent assembly from the South African Government.

The march was led by leading ANC [African National Congress] officials including southern Natal convenor and national head of intelligence Mr Jacob Zuma and Durban academic Dr Mike Sutcliffe.

A huge contingent of SA [South African] Police and Durban city police held up the traffic while about 500 marshalls wearing green headbands used ropes to direct the huge crowd.

Shoppers and office workers lined the streets to watch and poured out onto office balconies and the tops of city buildings.

Protesters carried a huge white banner in front of the marchers which said: "We demand a constituent assembly now", "De Klerk regime stop the violence now", "Join the march for freedom", and "1991 year of mass action".

Other banners in the crowd read: "Scrap the Internal Insecurity Act" and "We demand the return of all exiles".

Small groups of onlookers constantly joined the main body of marchers while others broke away and walked or ran next to the other marchers.

Organisers of the march said they intended to hand over a memorandum to a government representative at the Oswald Pirow Building in Smith Street.

ANC's Hani Addresses 6,000 in Pieterburg

*MB0102173091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1434 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[Text] Pietersburg Feb 1 SAPA—Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation (MK)—ANC military wing] Chief of Staff Chris Hani on Friday led nearly 6,000 marchers to the Pietersburg offices of the security police to hand over a petition of demands for the establishment of a constituent assembly and an interim government.

The petition was received by the divisional chief of security, Col J. Van der Merwe.

Mr. Hani told the crowd that discipline was the key to the success of the struggle since they were part of the new parliament the African National Congress [ANC] demanded.

The marchers gathered early and braved roadblocks set on all entrances leading into the town.

Some trucks, buses and minibuses were turned back at some of the roadblocks and tension mounted in Mankweng after many people who were turned back assembled there for an impromptu rally. They were later allowed to attend the march after lawyers intervened, according to an ANC regional executive member.

Besides the stoning of a vehicle on the outskirts of town, the march ended without much incident, as police presence and barbed wired fences ensured the speedy evacuation of the marchers when the stipulated time expired.

Mr. Hani thanked the Pietersburg Town Council for allowing the march to proceed.

4,000 Participate in Bloemfontein March

*MB0102120091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1138 GMT 1 Feb 91*

[By Enid Rhodes]

[Text] Bloemfontein Feb 1 SAPA—Orange Free State protesters handed over a memorandum of grievances to a police representative on Friday [1 February] after a peaceful march through Bloemfontein.

African National Congress regional chairman Caleb Motshabi handed over a list which called for a constituent assembly, interim government and an end to violence.

Mr Motshabi said that it would be necessary for his people and the police to work together in the future and it was not

right that they should have been so insulted by the general—this in reference to the officer who was delegated to receive the memorandum. Mr Motshabi angrily described her "as a woman of the lowest rank".

Col Bart Vosloo, who was present, would not comment on Mr Motshabi's remarks, except to say that they would be conveyed to regional SAP [South African Police] Commissioner Gen Tom Erasmus.

About 4,000 people took part in the Bloemfontein march, which reached the security police headquarters about 11.45AM. Permission had been granted for 10,000 to march. The first march held in the city last year drew about 5,000, while there were about 3,000 at the march on December 6.

The protesters were believed to be mainly from the squatter camps round Mangaung. They amounted to a fraction of the total Mangaung population, however, which is estimated to be 180,000.

SA Communist Party flags were prominent at the head of the march, overshadowing the African National Congress flag.

There were professionally lettered banners that called for a constituent assembly as well as the release of detainees and the removal of restrictions. Other banners had been crudely lettered onto cardboard, including one that proclaimed "Viva Saddam".

The marchers, who varied in age from about five years old to well into the 70s, were well controlled.

Mr Motshabi expressed great dissatisfaction that Maj-Gen Tom Erasmus, regional commissioner of the SA Police, was not present to receive the memorandum from the ANC in the southern Free State.

Gen Erasmus, who had to attend a funeral on Friday morning, had mandated Lt M.J. Diederichs to accompany Col Bart Vosloo, regional head of the security branch in the Free State, who received memoranda from Mr Motshabi, the ANC Youth League and the Women's League.

After the memoranda had been read to Col Vosloo and Lt Diederichs, Col Vosloo told Mr Motshabi that he would hand the documents to Gen Erasmus.

Mr Motshabi, clearly angry, expressed his dissatisfaction that Gen Erasmus had not seen his way open to be present himself to receive the memoranda, but had sent "a woman of the lowest rank" to deputise for him. Mr Motshabi said this was an insult to those of us "who represent the majority".

Mr Motshabi also expressed dissatisfaction that for Friday's march, they had not been allowed to march along the streets they wished to march along.

The previous two marches held in Bloemfontein had been permitted to take a longer route, which included the main thoroughfare, Maitland Street. Friday's route, approved by the Chief Magistrate Mr Ben Loots, was much shorter and avoided the central city area.

Angola

UNITA Reiterates Readiness for Talks

MB0102130591 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 0935 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Jamba, Thursday Jan 31....UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has reiterated its readiness to participate in the next round of talks with the Luanda Government as long as this is based on the Washington document agreed upon by the warring parties last December.

Official sources said in Jamba today that the integrity of the Washington document is indispensable for a just and lasting peace in Angola.

The official sources pointed out that if the obstacles raised by the Luanda regime are overcome, this will pave way for the signing of three important documents on the peace process.

The three documents concerned are one on political principles for peace in Angola, another on the ceasefire principles and the third synthesis of issues in technical talks to be held between the holding of the sixth round and the day on which the ceasefire will be signed.

UNITA's Portugal Envoy Denies RSA Aid

LD0102124491 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] today accused the Angolan Government of wishing to cast a shadow over the next round of the peace talks with its claims that that UNITA continues to receive military aid from South Africa. UNITA has not received any South African aid for more than two years, said a communique from the movement's representation in Portugal, and both the United States and the USSR are aware of this. With these statements, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] wishes to camouflage the aims of its military adventures in the period leading up to the next round of talks between UNITA and the Angolan Government, due to start in Portugal 6-7 February. The rebels reported systematic and permanent Angolan Air Force raids on Jamba from (?Licoa), which have hit civilian targets, added the communique. UNITA also reiterates that the series of lies which the MPLA is now telling international public opinion does not alter in any way UNITA's determination to obtain a cease-fire and the democratization of Angola.

Botswana

Recent Mandela-Buthelezi Talks Applauded

MB3101194691 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Department of External Affairs has applauded the recent talks in Durban between the

deputy leader of the African National Congress, Mr. Nelson Mandela, and the Inkatha Freedom Party leader, Mr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

The department says it views the talks as a step in the right direction. The release says, as the government has stated before, mindless violence between, and among black organizations, or from any other quarter, is not in the interest of the process of negotiation leading to a nonracial, democratic, and united South Africa. It says such violence can only lead to the prolonging of the apartheid system, loss of innocent life, and the continued suffering of the masses.

The department says it is therefore encouraging to note that the two organizations have not only agreed to take specific measures in order to prevent any further acts of violence between their supporters, but have also undertaken to work together on a broad front in order to hasten the elimination of apartheid.

The release says the government is fully aware that the issue of violence in South Africa is a much more complex one and goes beyond the so-called rivalries between, and among black organization. It is hoped that the South African Government will shoulder its part of the responsibility of protecting all South Africans regardless of their political affiliations.

Comoros

Arrest Warrant Issued for Mohamed Taki

EA3001124491 Mayotte Radio France Overseas in French 1600 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Mohamed Taki, the unlucky candidate who lost to Said Mohamed Djohar during the latest Comoran presidential elections, is facing a charge. The INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER reveals that on 16 January 1991 in Moroni, Justice (Halifa) charged Mr. Taki with complicity in the destabilization attempt conducted by national elements in collaboration with French mercenary Max Veillard. But as Mohamed Taki now lives in Paris, an international warrant for arrest was issued against him by Justice (Halifa), a warrant which, according to the INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER, was delivered to the Comoran Foreign Ministry.

Mozambique

Peace Talks Reportedly 'Counterproductive'

MB3101182491 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Report from Rome correspondent Tomas Vieira Mario]

[Text] Yet another round of peace talks between the Mozambican Government and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] ended unexpectedly in Rome on Wednesday [30 January] without any progress having been made toward a cease-fire in Mozambique. The

round of talks assessed the implementation of the December accord on the confinement of Zimbabwean troops to the Beira and Limpopo corridors. As a result of the assessment, a clear line was drawn between the Joint Verification Commission and the Mozambican Government on the one hand, and Renamo on the other in view of serious differences on issues that seemed to belong to the past.

A report presented by Manfredo di Camerana, chairman of the Joint Commission and Italian ambassador to Mozambique, says that 14 violations to the accord were recorded. The commission confirmed eight of the violations, concluding that Renamo was probably responsible for at least six of them between December and 10 January. With regard to two other alleged violations, the commission said it did not have enough information to reach a conclusion.

Renamo declined any responsibility. Moreover, Renamo said the commission is being partial and of siding with the Mozambican Government. In a more serious tone, Renamo submitted its own report to the Joint Commission, in which it denies that the Zimbabwean troops have completed their withdrawal to the corridors. Renamo states that (?eight) Zimbabwean companies are still outside the corridors, allegedly with instructions to remain in the country forever, disguised as Mozambican troops. In its report to the Joint Commission, Renamo lists seven of the 10 Mozambican provinces where Zimbabwean [words indistinct] are disguised as Mozambican troops. The provinces include Zambezia, Tete, Manica, Sofala, Inhambane, Gaza, and Maputo.

In view of such allegations, the Joint Commission and the Mozambican Government delegation asked Renamo to substantiate its claims. Instead, Renamo is reported to have made an ultimatum, saying that the Mozambican Government should ensure the total and effective withdrawal of the Zimbabweans to the corridors, otherwise Renamo would take measures.

Frustrated with the developments, one of the mediators said the round of talks was not only unproductive, but counterproductive. In addition to those aspects of the talks, serious differences came to light once again, distancing Renamo from the Mozambican Government and the Joint Commission.

This time the talks discussed the concept of the Beira and Limpopo corridors. The Joint Commission regards a corridor as, quote, a continual strip of land between two known points. In the case of the Beira corridor, one such point is the city of Beira, and the other is Machipanda, on the Zimbabwean border.

The Limpopo corridor is limited by Maputo city and Chiqualaquala on the Zimbabwe border, unquote.

The Joint Commission's report adds that, quote, accordingly, Beira, Maputo, and Chokwe, and other cities within the boundaries of the corridors, are an integral

part of same corridors in line with the administrative definition of the aforesaid areas, unquote.

In a document, the Mozambican Government approved this definition without reservations, effectively regarding the Beira corridor as being between Beira city and the town of Machipanda, whereas the Limpopo corridor is situated between Maputo city and the town of Chiqualaquala.

In its response, Renamo said that cities should be excluded from the corridors, and remain at war although the monitoring posts of the International Verification Commission operate from those cities.

In conclusion, we could say that this was a round of talks marked by [words indistinct] which, unless they are solved in due course, could put at stake the very survival of the Rome accord. By refusing to substantiate its claims about an alleged presence of Zimbabwean troops outside the corridors, and by completely disagreeing with the deliberations of the Joint Commission, which includes three of its members, could be seen as not recognizing the Joint Commission of which four countries and Renamo itself are members.

A communique was expected to be released in Rome today.

Foreign Minister Feted by Madeira Government

*MB2501160691 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Jan 91*

[Report from Lisbon correspondent Eugenio Corte Real]

[Text] In Madeira yesterday afternoon, Foreign Affairs Minister Pascoal Mocumbi socialized with former residents of Mozambique at the Funchalense Restaurant. In the evening, the Madeira Regional Government honored him with a dinner.

The Mozambican foreign affairs minister expressed his confidence about the establishment of peace in Mozambique in the very near future. He added that good spirit will prevail at the Rome talks. He said: It will be possible to reach an agreement. Mozambique could become a prosperous nation, and cooperation with Portugal is sought in this regard.

[Begin Mocumbi recording] We want an even (?better) relationship. We are aware that such a relationship cannot be achieved solely through [words indistinct]. It is achieved through the participation of men, including Mozambican men and Madeira men who [words indistinct] are (?aware of the realities on the ground). [end recording]

Alberto Joao Jardim, the president of the Madeira Regional Government, also spoke at the function. He (?expressed) the hope that Mozambique would live in peace and democracy. He added that people from

Madeira, currently living in southern Africa, can also contribute to the development of Mozambique with their initiative.

Alberto Joao Jardim noted that people from Madeira are able to adapt to a new country with great ease. History has showed that people from Madeira can live anywhere. [Begin Jardim recording] The situation in Mozambique will improve [words indistinct] with their own hands. Many of those who are in Madeira today might return to Mozambique, and will help that country. [end recording]

Alberto Joao Jardim stressed that Mozambique should be assisted by the international community as it will soon become a zone of peace and democracy in southern Africa. The Mozambique people may count on [that assistance].

Jardim is likely to visit Mozambique this year at the invitation of President Chissano.

Portugal Donates Rural Development, Airline Funds

MB3001103691 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0800 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] This month Portugal allocated 16.2 million escudos for the Chokwe rural development project in Gaza Province. A statement from the Portuguese Embassy in Maputo says that the Portuguese Government has also earmarked 27.5 million escudos to assist Mozambique Airlines.

The funds were granted during the recent joint commission meeting between Portugal and Mozambique aimed at approving cooperation programs for the 1991-92 period.

Namibia

ANC's Mandela Blames 'Agents Provocateurs'

MB3101184291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1829 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Windhoek Jan 31 SAPA—The violence at Umgababa in Natal on Wednesday was not necessarily sparked off by members of the ANC [African National Congress] or the Inkatha Freedom Party, ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela said in Windhoek on Thursday.

Mr. Mandela told a press briefing at the end of a two-day visit to Namibia that there were "agent provocateurs" among the people as well as "enemies of peace" prepared to snuff out any attempts to quell the violence.

"We must expect a lot of resistance from these groups," Mr. Mandela said.

"And it does not follow that the violence that occurred was sparked off by members of Inkatha or the ANC."

On Tuesday, Mr. Mandela and Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi concluded an agreement in Durban to find ways of ending the violence between supporters of the two political groups.

"I fully believe that Inkatha is going to be honest in the execution of this agreement, and that we will be able to cooperate in an attempt to put an end to this violence.

"And I would ask people to be cautious in apportioning blame to any violence that might erupt after this agreement," he said.

The mere decision itself, he said, could not stop the violence that had been going on since 1984.

"We will have to adopt measures which will convey the decision to the masses of the people on the ground," he said, adding that machinery had not yet been put together.

"In the meantime, all we can do is merely to appeal to our people to be aware that we have taken this decision to end violence and the vilification of the leadership of organisations."

Mr. Mandela said he and Chief Buthelezi, whom he addressed as "prince" during the Durban meeting on Tuesday, would have to visit the strife torn areas to talk to people and appeal for an end to the violence.

"We are hopeful that that step will go a long way in reducing and even ending the violence," he said.

Zambia

***Union Head Blames Unrest on Political Climate**

91AF0410A Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
27 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Zambian Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) Chairman General Mr Frederick Chiluba has charged that unhealthy political environment in Zambia was the cause and source of industrial unrest.

Mr Chiluba, who is also vice chairman for organisation and operations of the multi-party movement said it was for that reason that the labour movement championed the return to political pluralism.

Mr Chiluba was speaking at Livingstone's Victoria Hall yesterday when he opened the eighth ZCTU quadrennial conference. His address was punctuated with shouts of "the hour has come."

He said the many agreements reached between the government and most donor agencies and countries have lacked the blessings of the people and have "all without exception been imposed on them."

All trade unions in the country, and the mother body were hailed by Mr Chiluba, who said they had won the fight and the fruit was to be had next year.

"I am confident that next year's parliamentary and presidential elections will give us even more joy because, firstly, there will be more than one party in the House.

"Secondly, because a totally new government will be in place. This is the wish of the Zambian people," Mr Chiluba said.

He said poverty anywhere constituted a danger to prosperity. This was aggravated by the lopsided distribution of incomes and wealth in the country which pointed to the dangers of friction between the rich and the poor.

All economic measures pronounced in the country had a negative impact on the poor, the result being incessant struggling against all such measures.

Owing to growing and increasing disparities in incomes and distribution of wealth, the workers' reaction was spontaneous strikes because the higher income bracket stood to benefit.

Mr Chiluba said government plans for development were thrown into disarray due to the rural-urban drift caused by the search for urban concentrated wealth.

Poverty would worsen because the children of the poor would be worse off than their parents as they shall be alienated from the economic means to pursue their calling in life.

***200,000 Reported Starving in Western Province**

91AF0484A Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English
27 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] Government has assured the people of Western Province that measures were being taken to combat hunger which was stalking the province.

The province's cabinet minister, Munukayumbwa Sipalo, said yesterday that Government, through the contingent planning unit, was making frantic efforts to combat the threatening hunger in the area where more than 200,000 were reported to be starving.

Comrade Sipalo said the planning unit has already sent vehicles to the province to be used in the distribution of food adding that another fleet of vehicles would soon be sent to the affected areas.

He was commenting on Press reports that Sesheke district had run out of maize resulting in severe food shortages in most parts of the district.

He said in fact it was not Sesheke alone affected but the whole province.—Zana.

Zimbabwe

Security Measures for Foreign Embassies Taken

MB0102132691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1248 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Harare Feb 1 SAPA—Zimbabwe has taken precautions to protect foreign embassies in Harare and make them secure, following threats by Iraq to attack worldwide interests of countries fighting them in the Gulf.

Foreign Minister Mr. Nathan Shamuyarira said protection was being offered to embassies that asked for it, reported ZIANA National News Agency.

Foreign Minister on RSA 'Significant Progress'

MB3101201691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2010 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Harare Jan 31 SAPA—Zimbabwe's minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Nathan Shamuyarira, said on Thursday night that "significant" progress has been made in South Africa regarding the normalisation of the political situation there, reports Zimbabwe's ZIANA News Agency.

Although there have been difficulties in discussing the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles, there had been some positive developments.

He cited the announcement last week that 400 political prisoners were to be released, which would be followed by another 200.

"Of course, it is very few, but still you can say some progress is being made," said the minister, who was addressing the monthly forum of the African Association of Political Scientists (AAPS).

In a wide-ranging review of political developments, Mr. Shamuyarira said a treaty aimed at achieving an African economic community by the year 2000 would be discussed by African foreign ministers later in the year.

An encouraging development in this direction was that the UAPTA [Expansion unknown], the preferential trade area currency, has become acceptable in some European countries, he said.

***New Air Terminal Construction Starts in 1991**

91AF0441C Harare THE HERALD in English
17 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] Plans are underway for the construction of a \$250 million terminal at Harare International Airport and the acquisition of two small aircraft to service the thin routes in the country, the Minister of Transport and National Supplies, Mr Denis Norman, said on Thursday night.

Mr Norman said work on the new terminal would start next year. It would be able to accommodate 13 wide-bodied aircraft at any given time and would have a separate VIP area so that passenger flow would not be interrupted by departure or arrival of dignitaries.

He said a lot of enabling work has to be done for the new terminal. The present international terminal would be refurbished and turned into a domestic terminal, he said. He was addressing members of the Royal Aeronautics Society in Harare.

On the two small aircraft, the minister said these were necessary because the thin routes such as Kariba, Mutare and Buffalo Range were not being serviced. Service on these areas stopped with the phasing out of the Viscount aircraft after independence. The two aircraft, whose cost was not disclosed, would be 40-seaters, the first of which is expected in the middle of next year.

Both Air Zimbabwe and the national cargo carrier, Affretair, were making operational profits, although the two cargo DC8 aircraft were ageing and were nearly at the end of their operating life, he said.

He said a new radar system would have to be installed because the present one, which was put up in 1963, is nearly obsolete and has worked once in the past 14 years.

This was during the Non-Aligned Movement conference in Harare in 1986. Complaints had been received from other airlines, he said, and more navigational aids were needed.

Security needed to be tightened at the airport, because "there are a lot of funny people moving around with peculiar ideas," he said.

On crew performance, he said a survey carried out by Air Zimbabwe showed that 95.5 percent of passengers found the airline to be either very good or satisfactory, while the other 4.5 percent said service was poor. Of the 4.5 percent, the majority said they were dissatisfied with the ground service, Mr Norman said.

There was need for a regional grouping of airlines in Southern Africa, of which chances were that South Africa had to be included, he said. This would enable the region to be more competitive on the international scene.

"As a regional grouping, we have a lot to offer against the international competitors who are trying to come in here," he said.

He said there was also need to train pilots locally instead of relying on Ethiopia and Europe.

***Cotton Marketing Board Reduces Deficit**

91AF0441E Harare THE HERALD-BUSINESS
HERALD 22 Nov 90 p 4

[Text] The Cotton Marketing Board [CMB] made a trading deficit of \$22.05 million for the year ended 28

February this year compared to \$26.07 million the previous year a reduction of 13.9 percent.

Capital expenditure during the year totalled \$12,617 million. The major proportion of the expenditure was for the replacement of ginnery at Kadoma, civil works on the Sanyati extension, depot equipment and improvements as well as housing.

The reduction in the trading deficit was mainly due to firm export prices, the depreciation of the Zimbabwe dollar and an improved local lint selling price. The volume of both domestic and export lint sales increased.

According to the annual report for the period under review tabled in Parliament on 23 October, a total of 73,448 tonnes were sold on the export market for \$236.5 million compared to \$183.4 million during the 1988/89 period. "The CMB retained its traditional markets and expanded the development of the Spanish, British and Hungarian markets with some new business being concluded in Mauritius," the chairman, Mr Cephas Msipa said.

Domestic offtake increased to 37,727 tonnes compared to 30,786 the previous year. Export realisations were 323.97 cents kg compared to 180.11 cents on the domestic market.

The textile industry, however, was still heavily subsidised and cost the CMB \$20.3 million in lost revenue based on production costs. The Agricultural Marketing Authority sterling loss and interest in past deficits also contributed to the trading account deficit.

The year saw a positive development take place when in June 1989 the Government awarded an increase of 15 percent on the local lint price and an increase of \$50 per tonne on the cotton seed price. In addition an agreement was reached with local spinners for local lint prices to be increased periodically by 15 percent with one such increase taking place on 1 February this year.

The average yield achieved during the year under review was 1,056 kg/ha which was 11.19 percent less than the previous year. The CMB paid an average producer price of 86.18 cents/kg compared to 76.74 cents in 1988/89.

The total commercial production of the Delmac variety was 11,758 tonnes at an average price of 86.40 cents/kg. Large scale commercial growers and Arda estates delivered 47 percent of the crop while small scale and communal farmers delivered 53 percent.

***Funds Allocated for Zambezi Canal Project**

91AF0441D Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English
18 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] The World Bank has agreed to allocate \$1.8 billion towards the building of a canal to bring water from the Zambezi River to Bulawayo.

The Matabeleland North provincial administrator, Comrade Zwelibanzi Mzilethi, said local businessmen had taken the initiative to lobby for the much-discussed project, which would start as soon as a few technicalities were ironed out.

There were fears, however, that the project would be unnecessarily delayed because of bureaucracy, Cde Mzilethi said. "We have certain members among ourselves who are afraid to make mistakes when they actually hold the destiny of the nation in their hands. They will not

take risks and hence you will find there will be shuffling of one file from one desk to another."

In 1932, when the tapping of the Zambezi was first proposed, it was estimated that the project would cost 16 million.

He said during recent meetings of the provincial development committee it was agreed that the project should be tackled in phases.

Benin

Finance Minister Announces Presidential Candidacy

AB2601114191 Cotonou Domestic Service
in French 1930 GMT 17 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Mr. Idelphonse William Lemmon is a candidate for next March's presidential election. The finance minister of the transitional government announced his candidacy this afternoon at the Center for the Promotion of Cottage Industry. At least 1,000 people turned up to support or listen to him. Among the top figures who were present were Presidents Emile-Derlin Zinsou and Hubert Maga, the Democratic Union for Social and Economic Development's Gation Houngbedji, and Interior Minister Jean Florentin Feliho.

Having Mr. Idelphonse William Lemmon as the eighth presidential candidate is quite an event, a special event. As the second government official to join the presidential race, the gesture of the financial minister and candidate calls into question the cohesion and solidarity of the executive. In addition, candidate Idelphonse Lemmon's speech was a very incisive one made, with a defiant tone, a challenge to all his fellow candidates, including Nicephore Soglo.

His speech can be divided into two parts. One is his program of action in which he outlines his planned conception of society in the year 2000, with a modernized agriculture, organized informal sector, veritable industry and, of course, a well-equipped banking system. In the second, Idelphonse Lemmon painted his own portrait of a fighter and defied all his opponents. [passage omitted]

Interim Official Announces Running for President

AB2801191291 Cotonou Domestic Service
in French 1930 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Excerpt] I have just made an important decision, not only for my modest person but also for the future of our country, Benin. My answer is yes, I will stand as a candidate at the upcoming presidential elections. This is what Mr. Moise Mensah said this morning while announcing his decision to be a candidate at the upcoming presidential elections. The deputy chairman of the International Fund for Agricultural Development discreetly recorded his candidacy. Mr. Moise Mensah made the disclosure at his Missebo private residence in Cotonou before a few dozen Beninese and foreign newsmen. Moise Mensah is the second person in the entourage of the head of the transitional government to stand as a candidate in the presidential elections, which confirms that some key personalities of the transition institutions do not share the prime minister's political and economic views. [passage omitted]

Adjignon Designated NRD Presidential Candidate

AB2001221091 Cotonou Domestic Service
in French 0615 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Excerpt] As I said in the headlines, a new presidential candidate has been designated for the March presidential elections in Benin. The National Rally for Democracy, RND, which began its congress 12 January, just a short while ago, designated its candidate for the presidential elections. Good morning, Jean Kornate.

[Kornate] Good morning Rene Bara.

[Bara] You have just come from the congress. You even spent the night there. It is quite a task. Now, what really happened there?

[Kornate] Several things happened. It was just a national conference of the delegates of the RND—this party which everybody is waiting for, to see how it will react and what position it will adopt on the political scene. That was done today. The RND has designated its candidate. He is the party's secretary general, Joseph Keke Adjignon. Quickly, I would like to give you his biography. He was born on 5 December 1927 in (Wankou). At first, he was an agricultural engineer. He later attended the Paris Advanced Law Institute. After that, he became a lawyer at the Cotonou court. He was twice president of the Bar Association. He was the keeper of the seals, minister of economy, and minister of planning. [passage omitted]

PNSD Severs Links With Three-Party Alliance

AB2701154091 Cotonou Domestic Service
in French 1930 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] The list of the political parties in peril in Benin is getting long. After the discontent undermining the National Rally for Democracy, the National Party for Solidarity and Democracy, PNSD, has proclaimed the breaking up of its alliance with the Party for Democratic Renewal of lawyer Adrien Houngbedji and the National Party for Democracy and Development. The PNSD of Rigobert Kouagou has withdrawn from the alliance because Kouagou believes his party will be defrauded in drawing up common lists for the legislative elections. A quota war is the cause for this quarrel within the alliance.

In the press release published this morning, the PNSD states that the right to equality, sincerity, and complementarity has been violated contrary to the provisions of the 15 December 1990 agreement signed by the alliance's parties. This agreement decided the drawing up of their common lists and the presentation of their candidates on the same lists for the upcoming legislative elections. The PNSD states that drawing up these lists, which began on 17 January 1991, unfortunately resulted in misunderstanding, arrogance, and intransigency among partners concerning the distribution of the candidacy quotas per parties. The PNSD states that all the principles laid down have been flouted because they wanted, at all costs, to give some people privileges unfavorable to others.

This is why, on the recommendation of its grass root militants, the PNSD has decided to withdraw from the alliance as of 22 January 1991. By doing so, the PNSD national executive secretariat intends to safeguard the life and sovereignty of the party and wants to end the rumors and speculations that those responsible for the party allegedly sold it off for millions of CFA [African Financial Community] francs.

In addition, the PNSD will not present candidates for the upcoming February 1991 legislative elections, the *comunique* states, because the time period for political groups to submit their candidacies is too short.

EEC Grants Aid To Support Democratization

AB2601120491 Dakar PANA in English 1453 GMT
25 Jan 91

[Text] Cotonou, 25 Jan (ABP-BEN/PANA)—Benin is to receive 2.4 billion F [francs] CFA [African Financial Community] as aid from the EEC in support of the democratisation process in the West African country. Prime Minister Nicephore Soglo said on Thursday [24 January].

Briefing newsmen on his just-concluded working visit to Belgium where he also held discussions with officials of the EEC, Soglo, who is heading the transition government, described the gesture as a bonus for the young Beninois democracy. He disclosed that the visit also led to the cancellation of Benin's 920 million F CFA debt which it owed to Belgium.

Burkina Faso

Taylor, Prince Johnson To Meet in Ouagadougou

To Discuss Ceasefire

AB3101162891 Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT
31 Jan 91

[Text] Ouagadougou, Jan 31 (AFP)—Rival Liberian rebel leaders Prince Johnson and Charles Taylor are to meet here Friday for ceasefire talks, official sources in the Burkina Faso capital confirmed Thursday.

Mr. Johnson, leader of the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) told the British Broadcasting Corporation in an interview broadcast Wednesday that he and Mr. Taylor, head of the main rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) would meet here for a "ceasefire dialogue." Mr. Johnson said he was invited to travel to Ouagadougou by Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore, who has backed Mr. Taylor's group with arms and regional diplomacy. Informed sources here said Mr. Taylor travels frequently to Burkina Faso.

The proposed meeting follows talks last week in the Liberian capital Monrovia between the two groups and representatives of the defeated army which failed to sort

out details of a two-month-ceasefire signed in Mali. Last week's talks broke down on the issues of troop deployment and disarmament.

NPFL defense spokesman Tom Woewiyu said his troops would lay down their arms only after a new interim government was formed, while the existing interim government of Amos Sawyer has maintained that the warring factions must disarm before the country's political issues can be addressed.

Johnson Meeting 'Delayed'

AB0102124391 Paris AFP in French 1137 GMT
1 Feb 91

[Text] Ouagadougou, 1 Feb (AFP)—The meeting between the two rival rebel leaders of Liberia, Charles Taylor and Prince Johnson, scheduled to take place today in Ouagadougou will be delayed for at least 24 hours, official sources disclosed today in the Burkina Faso capital. Prince Johnson, leader of the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia, is expected today in the Burkina Faso capital, but Charles Taylor, leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia will only be able to arrive tomorrow, according to these sources. The two men are expected to hold a press conference after this meeting.

Ghana

Loan Accord Signed With South Korea

AB3001083491 Dakar PANA in English 1838 GMT
29 Jan 91

[Text] Accra, 29 Jan. (GNA/PANA)—South Korea is to loan Ghana 13 million U.S. dollars for the construction of storage depots for petroleum products under an agreement signed in Accra Tuesday. The accord was signed by Foreign Secretary Obed Asamoah and the South Korean ambassador in Ghana, O Chong-il.

The loan, to be provided by the South Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund, has an interest rate of 3.5 per cent. It has a 20-year repayment period with five years grace.

Asamoah thanked South Korea for the loan. He said it comes at a time when the continued availability of petroleum and petroleum products has been placed in doubt because of the Gulf war.

Ivory Coast

President Says War 'Serious', Urges Peace

AB2501125691 Abidjan Domestic Service
in French 1930 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Tradition was again respected today, when members of the diplomatic corps and other socioprofessional organizations presented their new year wishes to President Houphouet-Boigny this morning in the great

hall of the Presidential Palace. Spokesmen of the various groups went up in turns to wish the president a happy new year. First was the prime minister, followed by the presidents of our various institutions, members of the government, and the diplomatic corps. The ceremony ended with the presentation of wishes by the national union of journalists and the union of information personnel.

In his address, Monsignor Janusz Bolonek, dean of the diplomatic corps, who spoke on behalf of the respective sovereigns and heads of state, wished the head of state good health, courage, and happiness. To the Ivorian people, he expressed the hope that this year would be one of genuine progress and economic recovery. [passage omitted]

In his reply to the dean of the diplomatic corps, the head of state said:

[Begin Houphouet-Boigny recording] Mr. Dean of the diplomatic corps, you have just expressed, with affectionate and kind words, on behalf of the diplomatic corps, best wishes for the future of my country. I would like, first of all, to express heartfelt thanks to you and to all who have so kindly come to this ceremony. [passage omitted]

The year just ended was, for Ivory Coast and the rest of the world, rich in events prompted mostly by greater aspirations for more justice, more freedom, and more democracy. In some places, these aspirations grew and materialized in a gradual and smooth manner, while in other places, they developed into violent reaction. By the grace of God and owing to the political maturity of our compatriots, our country was spared such violence and turbulence.

I would, therefore, limit my references to only a few of these events. First, the fraternal reunion between Eastern and Western Europeans; the admirable show of solidarity which prompted Westerners to turn to their Eastern brothers; the reunification of the great German nation; the relaxation of tension between the two blocs, and between the superpowers. This bodes well for a new economic and social world order. In the quest for such a new order, I would like to ask these questions: What is the situation now? What place is given to developing countries, especially to our beloved Africa?

We are friends, and genuine friendship prospers on truth. Despite the friendship shown by some and, despite their assistance, we feel extremely aggrieved because we continue to suffer from the adverse effects of the economic crisis which is affecting the poorer countries more, especially our poor Ivory Coast, whose fragile economy depends on agriculture. [passage omitted]

We have initiated rigorous austerity measures which are being implemented by a team of young, dynamic, and competent ministers under a prime minister who we fully trust and who is fully trusted by the people, and by international financial institutions, namely the World

Bank, the IMF, and certain financial circles. We are justified in hoping for better and happier days.

Unfortunately, and this accounts for the brevity of my address, the world is once again facing a war, one of the most serious wars of our time, which we have been unable to avert. I am calling on all sides, on my compatriots, and especially on the representatives of developing countries to heed the touching appeal made by His Holiness Pope John Paul II, who called on the whole international community to seek peace, just peace. Ivory Coast has always aspired for such peace, peace in justice, tolerance, solidarity, brotherhood, and love. I will never stop repeating that God is love. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Angolan Envoy Delivers UNITA Actions' Record

MB2901214491 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1200 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Simeao Adao, Angola's ambassador to the Ivory Coast, has delivered to the Ivorian authorities a video cassette showing various UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] massacres of Angolan civilians, as well as a document listing deadly actions carried out by that group in 1990.

At a meeting with Claire Grah, Ivorian minister of women's affairs, Ambassador Simeao Adao said that despite UNITA's terrorist actions the Angolan Government's efforts are aimed at finding peace and improving the socioeconomic conditions of the people.

On cooperation between the two countries, the Ivorian minister expressed her country's willingness to assist the People's Republic of Angola to the best of its ability.

Claire Grah was invited to visit Angola in order to learn of efforts being made in social sector and to strengthen ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Government Creates 10 Administrative Regions

AB2601113591 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN
in French 17 Jan 91 p 5

[Communique issued by the minister of communication on the meeting of the Council of Ministers in Abidjan on 16 January]

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held a meeting yesterday from 1000 to 1230 under the chairmanship of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. The meeting was devoted to the creation of 10 administrative regions in the country and to the organizational charts of the ministries.

Concerning the Ministry of Interior and Security, the president of the Republic signed a decree creating 10 administrative regions. The creation of such functional administrative entities is compatible with the requirements of a development-oriented administration.

Regions will guarantee the coherence and coordination of all economic, social, and cultural development actions.

A region, in essence, is an administrative entity and not a territorial entity and, therefore, does not enjoy moral personality or financial autonomy. The prefect of the department hosting the regional capital will coordinate the activities of the decentralized services operating in the region; but there will not be a hierarchical link between him and the prefects of departments in the same region. [passage omitted] The 10 regions are as follows:

1. The Central Region: Yamoussoukro [as capital];
2. The North Central Region: Bouake;
3. The Northeast Region: Bondoukou;
4. The East Central Region: Abengourou;
5. The South Region: Abidjan;
6. The Southwest Region: San Pedro;
7. The West Central Region: Daloa;
8. The West Region: Man;
9. The Northwest Region: Odiene;
10. The North Region: Korhogo.

The area covered by each region will be published later in the press. [passage omitted]

Mali

Traore Reviews Ties, Gulf With Burkinabe Envoy

AB3101151291 Bamako Domestic Service
in French 1500 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] and president of the Republic, received in audience at the Kourouba Palace Mr. Salif Diallo, secretary of state at the Presidency of Burkina Faso, who conveyed a message from President Blaise Compaore. The Burkinabe emissary was accompanied by His Excellency Amadou Kone, Burkina Faso's ambassador to Mali. The discussions centered broadly on bilateral, subregional, and international issues.

While it is true that Malians and Burkinabe can rejoice at their bilateral cooperation based on good neighborliness, complementarity, and solidarity, the situation is different with regard to the regional situation marked, among other things, by destabilization moves in Africa and the Gulf war, which constitute threats to international peace and security.

President Moussa Traore expressed delight at this message from President Blaise Compaore and reaffirmed the Malian people's constant readiness to make its contribution at all times through consultation and dialogue with a view to finding peaceful solutions to the various hotbeds of tension. The Burkinabe secretary of state at the Presidency spoke to Yiriba Samake after the audience:

[Begin recording] [Diallo] The message centers on the good relations between the Malian and Burkinabe peoples and the need for permanent and periodic consultations between the two heads of state. This message also focuses on the situation in our subregion, and...

[Samake, interrupting] The world's eyes are now turned to the Gulf, where an unprecedented crisis is in progress. Could we know the position of your country with regard to this crisis?

[Diallo] Burkina Faso's position is based on the decisions of the international community, and for us it is clear that international law must be complied with by all and for all, all along the line. There should not be one law for the rich and one law for the poor in the enforcement of international law. This is Burkina Faso's position with regard to the Gulf conflict, and we call on the wisdom of all the parties involved to restore peace as quickly as possible in that part of the world. [end recording]

Niger

Government Recognizes Two New Political Groups

AB2901232391 Dakar PANA in English 1518 GMT
29 January 91

[Text] Niamey, 29 Jan. (ANP/PANA)—Two new political groups—the Union for Democracy and Progress (UDP) and the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS), have joined seven other new political parties provisionally recognised by the Niger Government.

The UDP and the UDPS were respectively approved by the competent authority on 11 and 25 January, sources in the Interior Ministry have said.

The UDP is being led by Bello Tiousso Garba, an economist currently serving as secretary-general of the Mining and Geology School of the West African Economic Community (CEAO) in Niamey. Observers see him as an intellectual, critical of the present government.

The UDPS, the latest to be registered on 29 Jan., is being led by a journalist and company director, Akoli Daouel. He was a parliamentarian in the First Republic (1960-1974).

As at 29 January, nine political parties have been formed: the remaining seven include, the Union of Patriots, Democrats and Progressists (UPDP) of Prof. Andre Salifou, The Niger Democratic Union (UDN-Swaba) led by Mamoudou Pascal and the Niger Progressist Party (PPN-RDA) led by Kaziende Leopold.

Others are, The Union of Popular Forces for Democracy and Progress (UDFP-Sawaba) headed by Djibo Bakary, the Niger Social Democrat Party (PSDN) of Malam Adjil Waziri, the Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism

(PNDS-Taraya) led by Mahamadou and the Democratic and Social Convention (CDS-Rahama) led by Nabran Issoufou.

Senegal

Diouf Asserts Saddam Will Lose Gulf War

AB3101211991 Dakar PANA in French 1250 GMT
31 Jan 91

[Text] Dakar, 31 Jan (APS-SEN/PANA)—Senegalese President Abdou Diouf asserted this evening in Dakar that Iraq will lose the war and, contrary to the declarations of Iraqi Head of State Saddam Husayn, it will not last months. Mr. Diouf, who was talking to the press upon his return from a three-day visit to Lome and Conakry, also expressed gratitude to Nigeria for the assistance it has given to African countries affected by the increase in oil prices.

Questioned about an eventual bogging down of the Gulf war, Abdou Diouf said he did not want to be pessimistic and said that he did not want to be intimidated by the psychological warfare being waged by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. If Saddam says the war will last several months, he is not speaking the truth and he will lose, Allah willing, the Senegalese head of state stated.

On this issue, he said that he and his counterparts, with whom he had just met, had, without illusions, appealed to the Iraqi president to withdraw from Kuwait and abide by the UN resolutions.

President Diouf also warmly thanked Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida for his decision to give oil at preferential prices to African countries affected by the Gulf war.

Diouf on West African Economic Integration

AB3101162091 Dakar PANA in English 1518 GMT
31 Jan 91

[Text] Dakar, 31 Jan. (APS-SEN/PANA)—Senegalese President Abdou Diouf has said he was more than ever convinced of the chances of success in the political union of countries with common cultural such as The Gambia, Mali, Guinea and Senegal.

Speaking in Dakar on his return from a three-day visit to Lome and Conakry, Diouf spoke of the willingness of some of his colleagues in the West African sub-region for the economic integration within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). According to him, Presidents Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo and Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria share a similar view on the need to reduce the plethora of inter-state organisations in West Africa.

Commenting on the summit of the Organisation for the Development of the River Gambia (OMGV), which he attended, Diouf said his colleagues—Lansana Conte of Guinea, Joao Bernardo Veirira of Guinea-Bissau and

Dawda Jawara of The Gambia and himself—discussed the necessity for rapid economic integration of the sub-region. Such economic integration should in the long run lead to political union, he said.

We estimated that after 30 years of independence, we are in a better position to appreciate the evil effects of balkanisation and sense the necessity for economic integration.

On the political level, the emphasised, nothing stops countries so close culturally as The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Guinea to act resolutely for integration in our sub-region.

According to him, Senegal, after living through two sad experiences of unification (in 1960 with Mali in 1981 with The Gambia), has still come to the conclusion that the more populous one is, the better.

Diouf indicated that the mini-summit with his Nigeria and Togolese colleagues in Lome resolved that after 15 years of the existence of ECOWAS, to go as far as possible in economic integration.

He said they also intend to ensure real circulation of persons, goods and capital at a time when European unity is on the horizon.

Faced with the existence of a plethora of inter-state organisations, Diouf said, they perceived the necessity to scrap a certain number of these entities and only retain those that need to be retained. Such an option, he said, will enable some of the states settle their debts with the ECOWAS.

Nonetheless, he said, economic and political integration can only succeed if there is an air of freedom, peace and collective security.

In this regard, the existing ECOWAS protocols on mutual assistance and non-aggression, could be ratified to put in place measures to ensure political security in the 16-member states, Diouf said.

Sierra Leone

President on Force Sent to Gulf, Soldier's Role

AB2601142991 Freetown Domestic Service
in English 0700 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] President Dr. Joseph Saidu Momoh has disclosed that in addition to our participation in ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], Sierra Leone has sent a token contingent to join the allied forces in the Gulf War as its modest contribution to the maintenance of world peace and security. President Momoh was addressing officers and men of the 1st Battalion of the Republic of Sierra Leone Military Forces on Myohaug Day, at Wilberforce Parade Grounds held on Thursday [24 January]. He recalled the contribution of Sierra Leone's 1st Battalion toward the victory of the Allied Forces in the Battle of

Myohaung in 1945. He said the courage and self-sacrifice demonstrated by our soldiers in that battle during the World War II earned the 1st Battalion of the Republic of Sierra Leone Military Forces, the Battle Honor, Myohaung.

President Momoh said we are proud of the fact that in their own little way, the officers and men of the battalion had contributed somehow to the relative peace and freedom the world enjoys today. He observed that it was sad and unfortunate to note that while we celebrate the victory of the battle, another battle, dubbed Operation Desert Storm, and, the Mother of All Battles, was being fought in the Gulf. He reminded the officers and men of the Republic of Sierra Leone Military Forces that the duty of a soldier is to defend his country with unqualified loyalty and dedication.

The president also reminded them of the local, global, economic and political trends of this country, and warned them against allowing themselves to be used as agents by any ill-disposed persons determined to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the nation they have sworn to defend. He noted with satisfaction, government efforts toward the welfare of the Armed Forces in the areas of providing additional accommodation, improvement of the naval wing, and provision of modern logistical and combat support for the effectiveness of their various units.

President Flown to London for Medical Check Up

AB3101162691 Paris AFP in English 1602 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Freetown, Jan 31 (AFP)—Sierra Leone President Joseph Momoh has flown to London for a medical check up, officials said Thursday. They said the Sierra Leone leader was flown on a special flight from Freetown late Wednesday aboard a presidential jet sent by Nigerian head of state Ibrahim Babangida.

The officials said General Momoh, who celebrated his 54th birthday last Saturday, has not been in good health for some weeks. He did not attend a thanksgiving service which was held to mark his birthday anniversary and in recent days has been represented at public functions by Vice President Salia Jusu Sheriff, who was sworn in as acting president Wednesday.

Constitution Amended; Voting Age Lowered

AB2501133291 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Parliament has approved two separate bills to amend the Constitution of Sierra Leone 1978. They are the Constitution of Sierra Leone Amendment Act 1991 and the Constitution of Sierra Leone Amendment Act No. 2.

Introducing the bill titled, The Constitution of Sierra Leone Amendment Act 1991, the attorney general and minister of justice, Dr. Abdulai Conteh, explained that

the objective of the bill was to amend the Constitution of Sierra Leone 1978 to lower the voting age from 21 to 18 years, thereby extending the franchise. [passage omitted]

On the bill entitled, The Constitution of Sierra Leone Amendment No. 2 Act of 1991, Dr. Abdulai Conteh said that the objective of the act was to amend the Constitution of Sierra Leone 1978 to provide for a uniform [word indistinct] of resignation (?or retirement) to all public officers and others who are desirous of contesting general elections to Parliament. The bill, he said, seeks to amend Subsection 1 of Section 45 of the Constitution of Sierra Leone 1978 by repealing Paragraph B thereof and replacing it with a new paragraph to allow all public officers and others to resign or retire at least six months prior to the day on which they seek to be elected. [passage omitted]

Togo

Israeli Envoy Praises Eyadema Position on Gulf

AB2501174491 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Excerpts] This morning, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic, received His Excellency Ya'aqov Revah, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Israel in Togo, at the Presidential Palace in Lome. The head of the Israeli diplomatic mission in Togo brought a written message from President Herzog to General Gnassingbe Eyadema. The message concerns the good relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between our country, Togo, and Israel, as is borne out by the periodic fruitful exchanges between Presidents Eyadema and Chaim Herzog. The discussions held by the Israeli ambassador with President Eyadema in this morning's audience concerned the revitalization of Israeli-Togolese relations of friendship and cooperation.

With regard to the burning international issues of the moment, it is of course the Gulf conflict that featured mainly in these discussions between the head of state and the ambassador of Israel in Togo. In this connection, here is the statement made to the press this morning by His Excellency Ya'aqov Revah at the end of his presidential audience:

[Begin recording] [Revah] I am leaving the residence of the head of state, who received me this morning at my request. First of all, this enabled me to deliver to him a written message from President Herzog, a message which is in answer to a previous message that President Eyadema had kindly sent to him in line with the exchange of ideas that our two heads of state carry out from time to time both in order to present to each other their ideas and opinions on the most burning, current international issues, and on bilateral relations.

It is a message of deep friendship and cooperation between our two countries, a cooperation that has been

strengthened in recent times, as you know, by the visit of the minister of foreign affairs to Israel on Christmas Eve in December, a visit that was also marked by the meeting of the Israel-Togo Permanent Joint Cooperation Commission, which was holding its first session. This means that relations between our two countries are very good and have recently undergone a further favorable political boost. At the end of the meeting, agreements were signed, the essential aspects of which were the principal projects to be begun as part of that cooperation over the next two years. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, the hottest current issue today is the Gulf War. Your country is concerned, because from the beginning to the present, missiles have been launched against your country. Everybody is wondering about Israel's reactions?

[Revah] I want to say that my country is concerned, but I must say it is concerned in spite of itself. You have followed the unfolding of this crisis since the first day, and you have certainly remarked that Israel has stayed out of this crisis right from the beginning. Israel is not looking for war with Iraq nor with any other neighboring country and has done everything to keep out of this war. Saddam Husayn, on the contrary, has every interest in getting Israel involved, and for many months, he has done everything to get Israel involved, to mix us up in the fighting with a clear-cut goal of dislocating and dismantling the international coalition that has formed against him following the invasion of Kuwait. To achieve this, he has tried to link two conflicts that have absolutely nothing to do with each other.

There is an Arab-Israeli conflict, and there is a Palestinian problem to solve in the direct context of Israel and its neighbors. This conflict has absolutely nothing to do with the Kuwaiti crisis. Kuwait is an Arab country; it has been invaded by another Arab country. It is an intra-Arab problem in which the world has interests. It is clear that this coalition has been formed with the United States at its head, but that Israel has nothing to do with the Kuwaiti crisis, and Iraq's President Saddam Husayn's attempts to implicate us are in order to serve his own bellicose interests.

Concerning the present turn of the crisis—yes, what Saddam Husayn has been doing in the past few days is to try in the field—now that he is in difficulty in the face of the offensive mounted by the allies against Iraq—he is trying effectively to make Israel enter the fighting. There were two missile attacks last week and a third one tonight. These attacks have already left 130 or 140 wounded and three dead. Among the wounded are old people and babies, which shows that the targets aimed at by the Iraqi missiles are not military installations. They

are purely urban centers. It is a simple provocation, an attempt to get Israel to enter the fighting, and as I was saying, to disrupt the allies' plans.

In terms of Israel's reaction, you have noticed that up to now Israel has not reacted to the Iraqi aggression and has so far abstained from any involvement in this conflict. Israel has not reacted, but that does not mean it will not react or that it is waiving its right to react. A preventive operation would have been the best action, but Israel did not do it in order not to hamper the international coalition against Saddam Husayn. I wish to recall that the international community led by the United States and even some Arab countries in the coalition have recognized Israel's right to act and especially to react to an Iraqi attack, to an Iraqi provocation.

Israel has not asserted itself so far—not out of weakness, but by taking into account all these geopolitical, military, and strategic factors of the situation. We discussed this situation, as I have just explained, with the president at length, and I must say with a lot of satisfaction that the president sees things in the same light: the right of Israel to defend itself, as the right of any people, any country, to defend its interests, and the duty of every government to ensure the protection of its civilian population. The president also considers the Iraqi action as a provocation, and our position is well understood by President Eyadema. [end recording]

Relations 'Established' With South Korea

*AB2501105891 Lome Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 23 Jan 91*

[Press release issued in Lome on 23 January]

[Text] In this continuously changing world, in both the political and economic fields, it is important for states to foster closer ties, strengthen their cooperation, and establish [as heard] any alliances. For three decades, Togo has been pursuing a foreign policy based on the sacred principles of friendship, dialogue, consultations, good neighborliness, and cooperation in the service of peace and development.

It is in this context that the Government of the Republic of Togo and the Government of the Republic of Korea, desirous of reinforcing their bonds of friendship and cooperation in the sectors of economic, technical, and sociocultural development, agreed today to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and international law. The two governments also agreed to appoint their ambassadors as soon as possible. This statement will be broadcast simultaneously in Lome, Seoul, and New York today, Wednesday, 23 January 1991.

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